

Kumool

Order thereon No. 749 W 5-3-88-
5 March 1888.

Communicated to the
Suptg. Engr. I Circle for in-
formation.

2. As regards para 3 of the
order in the Public Deptt. No.
181, of 16 Febry 1888, it is ob-
served that in his letter No.
580 of 11 October 1887 the Director
General recommended that
a sum of Rs. 400 or Rs. 500
should be placed at Mr. Rea's
disposal "for excavations this
season during his tour in
the Kistna and Godavari
Districts". He proposed further
that when Mr. Rea began to
spend it, "he should send
in an estimate stating whether
it would be sufficient, or what
further sum would be required".

3. A sum of Rs. 500 was
thereupon allotted to Mr. Rea,
in G.O. No. 3286. W 5-3-88-
and he was informed that on
receipt of an estimate showing
the additional amount required
the question of supplementing
the grant would be considered.

4. The estimate has not yet
been submitted in compliance
with these orders.

5. As, however, it now ap-
pears that a further sum of
Rs. 400 can be utilised for ex-
cavations at Guntupalle, the
amount is allotted from the
current year's budget provision
for conservation of ancient
monuments.

(Sd) H.R.M.

To S.E. I Circle
Engr. M.W.A.
Public Deptt.

Govt. of (1888) Madras.

PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 16th February 1888, No. 181.

FEBRUARY.

Archæology.

Passing orders on Director-General's letters in
connection with Mr. Rea's report on his recent
survey of Buddhist remains near Guntupalle,
Godavari district.

16TH FEBRUARY 1888, No. 181, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D., C.I.E., Director-General, Archæological Survey of India, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Mathura, 18th January 1888, No. 76.

I have the honor to forward herewith Mr. Rea's report on his recent survey of Buddhist remains in the neighbourhood of Guntupalle, in the Godávári district. His survey of the caves has been complete, and he has discovered several that were previously unknown.

2. It is to be regretted that his partial excavation of one, of what appears to be, a most interesting group of *stupas*, was not carried further; but the obstructiveness of the local Zemindar prevented this, and Mr. Rea wished to avoid anything like collision with him. The universal strong belief prevalent over the Telugu districts, that it is only for treasure that such excavations are ever made, was doubtless the real cause of the opposition.

3. The danger now will be lest the Zemindar, since his attention has been directed to them, should at once attack these unique ancient monuments, and, as the Amarávati Zemindar did, destroy for ever the chances of obtaining the information from them that the survey is intended to elicit. I would therefore venture respectfully to press upon Government the great desirability of securing that they be not intermeddled with. This may probably be most readily attained through the early and judicious influence of the Collector. The Zemindar might be assured that, however strange it may seem to him, the mounds and their sculptures undisturbed are of more public value than treasure; that none is expected in them, but that if, by any chance, such should be found, it would be equitably dealt with by Government under the Treasure Trove Act; and that Government reserves the right of excavation.

4. It seems very desirable to circulate more widely in vernacular, through tahsildars and all village officers, the provisions of the Treasure Trove Act, asking them to make it generally known among the people. From information I receive from all quarters, it does not seem to be at all well known, and the result is that many important and valuable coins go to the silversmith or saukar rather than to Government. The circulars of Government of India, Public Works Department, No. 4 of 8th September 1886 and No. 5 of 14th December 1887, also require a wide circulation among all Government officers.

5. Mr. Rea's report is full of interest, but the full details of his survey can only be given with the drawings he has made, when they are ready for publication.

ENCLOSURE.

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Archæological Surveyor, to the Director-General, Archæological Survey of India, dated Camp, Jilligerigudem, 4th January 1888, No. 5.

With reference to your instructions and paragraph 4 of my tour programme printed in G.O., No. 1650, Public, dated 12th December 1887, I have the honor to state that I arrived here on the 27th ultimo and began the survey of the rock-cut *viharas*, and also to examine and partially excavate the "*stupa* and one of the *dagobas*" mentioned in paragraph 4 of Mr. Sewell's letter in G.O., No. 220, Public, dated 11th February 1887.*

* NOTE.—The existence of the remains would seem to have been first discovered by Dr. W. King, who mentioned them as being near the villages of Nagalapalle and Jilligerigudem. The last named is the nearer, and in describing the place it seems more applicable to use it than Guntupalle, which is further off than any.

2. The *stupas* or *dagobas* are over a dozen in number, and from a close examination of the whole of them, I am convinced they are all of one class. At present, they are simply low, irregular mounds of earth, mixed with bricks, rough stone blocks, with a few circular cut stones lying at different places on their surface, and the whole thickly overgrown with low trees, shrubs and brushwood. I selected one mound for excavation. It measured about 50 feet in diameter and 12 or 15 feet in height. I sunk a shaft down the centre and found, close to the surface, an upright pillar or *stambha*, 3 feet long, with square base, octagonal shaft, and a small circular pin on the top, which may possibly have been used for fixing a sacred umbrella on religious festival occasions. Digging down for 8 feet on one side of the well, I came to the exterior wall of a circular-built *dagoba*. The segment so exposed stood directly under the surface *stambha*, and on the north side of the mound. On exposing it, I carried the digging around the curved stonework so as to lay bare the *stupa*. I found it to be a dome, almost hemispherical in outline, about 25 feet in diameter and built in closely-jointed, horizontal courses of masonry; the whole bore traces of having been whitewashed. The upper portion of the dome was ruined, and I found the coursers, or cut stones, lying some inside and others outside the *stupa* itself. This dome stands on a circular, built basement about 7 feet high, with a projection of 12 inches all round. A channel is cut on the upper surface of the projection. On exposing the *stupa*, I dug a well down its centre to ascertain if it contained any relic casket, but although I carried this down as far as the foundation, I found none. The interior was filled with earth, bricks, rough stone blocks, cut stones fallen from the roof, and bits of ancient, coarse pottery. The whole was intergrown with tree roots, so none of the earthenware was complete.

Around the exterior I dug a trench, and in doing so, discovered some interesting white marble sculptures. They are much weathered, and their archaic style leads me to think that they are as ancient, if not anterior to those discovered at Jaggayyapeta by Dr. Burgess. One is the top of a panel 13½ inches broad, with 2½ inches flat surface along the top. Traces of what seem to have been capitals of pilasters appear on each side. The central recessed panel is 9½ inches broad and 1 inch deep. In this is the head of a figure in bas-relief, with halo around it, and a garland (?) over on each side. The sculpture is in two pieces, and the lower portion of the panel is wanting.

Another is a portion of a slab 21 inches long and 8 inches broad. On it is a standing Buddha, 16 inches high, with his left arm bent, over which hangs the flowing drapery of his robe. The features are almost obliterated through long exposure to the weather. The image is archaic in character, yet has the graceful pose so characteristic of Buddhist sculpture. Not far from this last, another was unearthed, which fits on to the image already mentioned. It is the upper, right hand portion of the panelled slab on which the Buddha had been sculptured in bas-relief. It measures 12 inches long, 6 inches broad, and 2½ inches thick. In the panel is the left side of the halo which encircled the head, and over is the half of a double moulded segmental arch with *chakra* and radiating lines introduced as ornaments on the flat; while the apex or extrados is sculptured with a row of *trisulas*. On the right side of the panel is the upper part of a pilaster with moulded capital supporting a recumbent lion (?) over which stands a small image.

In the trench excavated around the east exterior side of the *stupa*, a small cylindrical stone casket was found. It is 4½ inches high, 4½ inches in exterior diameter, with a small hollow cut in it 2½ inches in diameter and 1½ inches deep. Some mortar adheres to the lower portion of the stone, appearing as if it had been fixed upright in some masonry. I believe this to be the relic casket for which we were fruitlessly digging the interior of the *stupa*. Its position where found may be explained if it had been placed in the Tee on the summit of the *dagoba*, which either was, or was intended to represent a relic casket (Fergusson's *Ind. and East. Arch.* 64). When the upper portion of the dome was destroyed it would fall down along with the roof stones, several of which were lying near it. All the fallen dressed stones which formed the upper portion of the dome have been carefully laid to one side, so that, if need be, the ruined portion could easily be restored at very little expense. The lower portions and basement are very solidly built and in perfect preservation. I dug a trench at right angles to the building, but found no traces of a surrounding rail. It is quite possible it may exist, however, at other places in the circumference.

3. On a careful examination and measurement of the positions of the stone pillars, at another part of the ruins, mentioned in paragraph 4 of Mr. Sewell's letter, I ascertained them to be the remains of an extensive pillared mandapa which had once stood there. Several piers stand erect, and the broken bases of others still remain. The former places of the fallen pillars can be easily traced from the position in which they now lie. I cleared the earth around them and found all the fallen stones were piers, without any trace of built walls.

4. The Jiligerigudem rock-cut caves and *viharas* have been carefully drawn to a large scale, and I find that the larger entrance doors to the principal *vihara*, each and all, present the same peculiarity already noticed in the small circular cave, that is, the door-jambs slope outwards or "batter" from the floor up to the springing line of the arch, so that the width of the door at the sill is several inches less than that at the bottom of the arch. This important point has been omitted and there are several other mistakes in the drawings already published. In addition to the

rock cuttings noted by Mr. Sewell in his letter to Government, there are other two groups of caves at some considerable distance up the hill. They are much weathered, the doors and windows have arched heads and they have the wooden features repeated in stone similar to those of the principal *vihara*.

5. The discovery of the marbles is important, as it proves that such sculptures do exist here and probably in considerable number. The work of excavation, however, is one of extreme difficulty and cannot be entrusted even to the most intelligent of my staff, but requires my almost constant personal supervision. In addition to the mound covering the *stupas*, they themselves apparently stand about 8 or 10 feet below the present ground surface. While examining another *stupa* I picked up three pieces of white marble on the surface of the ground, and I doubt not that a regular excavation would bring others to light. I also found several slabs of a white slate, which I think must have been used for paving: these latter I have left in one of the rooms of the *vihara*. The work to be properly carried out would require a special grant of Rs. 400 or 500. Not only would the thick brushwood and trees which cover and are destroying the mounds have to be removed, but the earth itself is so mixed with boulders and stones that the work is one of considerable difficulty. With the time at my disposal I was only able partly to excavate one, and that not even down to the base line all round. I would suggest that a special grant be asked for the work of excavation next season, and, to facilitate the operation, the Collector might be authorized to have the jungle covering the *stupas* cut down beforehand. It would be a pity were such a fine group to remain unexplored. At no other known place in the south are such a number collected together, and these if uncovered might rival some of the groups in the north.

6. From the extensive nature of the rock-cut *viharas* and the large number of *stupas*, the place must have been one of considerable religious importance in the early centuries of the Christian era. Being so, it could hardly have escaped the attention of the Chinese pilgrims who visited India. It may therefore be interesting to see whether its situation might not correspond with any of the monasteries described by them, and whose supposed site is at present considered by scholars as doubtfully fixed.

7. A curious matter in regard to these *stupas* is that they are without doubt intended to stand clear of any artificial covering. The question therefore arises.—Why are they hidden in mounds which have not been formed naturally, but are artificially made up of packed stones and earth? I can only account for it on the supposition that the Buddhists on being driven from the place raised these mounds over their shrines to protect them from the iconoclasts of the time, doubtless thinking that at some time or other they might return thither. The pillared mandapa before referred to shows that the fallen pillars have been wilfully thrown down, probably by fire. Many of the stumps remain, while the shafts lie broken alongside.

8. On coming here, I proceeded at once with the excavations above described and the cutting down of some jungle bushes from the front of the *viharas*, so that photos of each might be taken. On the morning of the 30th ultimo I was told by the village munsif that the place was not Government property, but belonged to Narayana Deva Raja, the Zemindar of Guntupalle, who had said that if I found and took away anything, I did so without his consent. The place not being Government property had not been mentioned by Mr. Sewell. I at once requested an interview and explained the object of the work and asked if he had any objection to its being carried on. He then stated that he had none, and that the work might proceed. I learned, however, as the excavation of the *stupa* brought to light its true character and resemblance to the cave "linga," that efforts were being made to prevent the coolies working for me. He also endeavoured to get possession of the marble images excavated, stating that I might take photos or drawings of them, but that the objects themselves were to be kept by him. As an excuse he stated that, had I found a golden image, it would be taken also. The provisions of the *Treasure Trove Act* seem to be unknown in this remote place. As the marbles could be of no possible interest or value to him, and as his objection was dictated by a spirit of obstructiveness, I declined to leave them, as I have no doubt that had I done so they would certainly have been destroyed. I stated however, that I would deposit them with the Tahsildar of Ellore, with whom they could remain till the orders of Government were received as to their disposal. He then informed my clerk that he had removed any objection to my taking them. I would request therefore that they may be sent to the Government Museum in Madras. The Telugu name for white marble and for the white slate slabs found at these places is "Nappa raya," and I was told each does equally well for burning into chunam. Had I left the slabs here, it is almost a certainty that they would have gone in the same or a similar way, as many of the Amaravati sculptures did.

9. In the progress of the work I received not the slightest assistance from the Zemindar; and if work is to be further carried out at this place, it might be well to count on this and make provision against such ignorant obstruction beforehand. The strong belief that such excavations are only undertaken in search of treasure is the source of this obstructiveness. Had it not been for Tumbana Sublayya, the village munsif, who, though an unpaid servant of Government, did everything he possibly could in the providing of supplies and coolies, I should have been able to do little or no excavation here at all.

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D., C.I.E., Director-General, Archaeological Survey of India, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Mathura, N.W.P., 23rd January 1888, No. 101.

In continuation of my letter, No. 76, of 18th instant, I have the honor to add that Mr. Rea has since suggested to me that, were a grant of about Rs. 400 allowed him for excavations at Guntupalle and arrangements made by the Collector of Godáviri with the Zemindar to prevent interference, he thinks he would be able to return to the place this season, after finishing at Amarávati, and carry out the excavations that seem so promising of interesting results.

2. I would venture to commend this proposal cordially to the favorable consideration of Government at as early a date as convenient. Mr. Rea's presence is indispensable whenever the excavations are made, and if they can be completed this season, it would save the time and expense of a future visit to the locality. Any objects discovered should be transmitted to the Government Central Museum at Madras.

ORDER—dated 16th February 1888, No. 181, Public.

Recorded.

2. The Government note with regret that Mr. Rea's excavations were interrupted through the obstructive action of the Zemindar of Guntupalle. The Collector will endeavour to remove the Zemindar's objections and prevent any local interference with antiquarian remains, as suggested by Dr. Burgess in paragraph 3 of his letter. He will at the same time convey the commendation of Government to the village munsif referred to at the close of Mr. Rea's report.

2. All Collectors will be directed to re-publish Act VI of 1878, and the rules framed under it (G.O., 7th September 1878, No. 1350,) in their District Gazettes. Dr. Burgess will have learned from G.O., 25th January 1888, No. 97, that attention has been called in the Public Works Department to the Government of India circulars referred to in paragraph 4 of his letter. This order will now be printed and communicated to all Collectors.

3. Dr. Burgess' second letter read above will be considered in the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

H. P. Stokes
Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.

- „ the Collector of Godáviri.
- „ all other Collectors.
- „ the Public Works Department.
- „ the Revenue Department.
- „ A. Rea, Esq., First Assistant, Archaeological Survey.
- „ R. Sewell, Esq., M.C.S.

Copy to the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, London.

- „ „ President, Asiatic Society of Bengal.
- „ „ Secretary, Madras Literary and Scientific Society.

APPENDIX.

G.O., dated 25th January 1888, Mis. No. 97, Public.

Read—the following G.O., dated 7th January 1888, No. 59 W., Public Works.

Read—the following Circular from G. H. D. WALKER, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (General), to the Government of Madras, &c., &c., dated Fort William, 14th December 1887, No. 5, Public Works :—

[Objects of archaeological or historical interest not to be disturbed without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Survey Department.]

In forwarding for the information of the Government of Madras the accompanying copy of a letter received from the Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India, I am directed to invite attention to

Circular No. 4, dated the 8th September 1886, and to request that orders may be issued enjoining the careful observance of the instructions conveyed therein.

2. I am further to request that, so far as possible, measures may be taken to prevent any object of archaeological or historical interest being excavated or otherwise disturbed in the manner referred to in Dr. Burgess' letter, without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Survey Department; and that special attention of the local authorities may be called to the cases quoted, in which a neglect of this precaution has apparently led to the loss of much information of great archaeological interest.

ENCLOSURE.

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D., C.I.E., Director-General, Archaeological Survey of India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, dated Simla, 17th October 1887, No. 620.

From a paper that has recently appeared in the Bengal Asiatic Society's Journal, I observe that an ancient Buddhist stupa at Mordhvaj, 27 miles north-east of Bijnaur, mentioned by General Cunningham (Archaeological Survey Reports, Volume II, pages 237-38), must have been recently excavated without any reference to this department, and other remains have been similarly excavated in Ghazipur, at Bhitari and elsewhere.

2. However carefully the contents of relics found in ancient mounds may in some cases be collected and forwarded to the Provincial Museums by the excavators, the excavations themselves always destroy those indications of purpose and arrangement that the specialist alone would notice, and which are of as much interest as the objects found. It is most desirable that every detail that can be secured by the best modes of excavation, and which only the expert would know where and how to look for, should be acquired. No one can readily conceive what must have been lost by the unscientific excavation and destruction of the many Buddhist remains that might be named. So many have already been utterly destroyed, in search only for their contents, and so few of them are now left, that it seems most desirable they should be strictly guarded from further destruction, or excavated only under the most experienced direction, not so much for the "finds" they may contain, as to discover, if possible, their original characters and the arrangements connected with their purposes and uses. This object seems to have been lost sight of in Upper India, and the excavations made of late years seem to have been conducted with but little scientific care. Archaeological excavation is now a very different work from what it was half a century ago, and requires knowledge and experience. A distinct arrangement should also be made for the transmission to the public museums of every object found in any excavation.

No. 2476-G.

Copy forwarded to the Revenue and Agricultural Department for information.
Original papers returned.

(By order.)

(Signed) G. H. D. WALKER,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Order—dated 7th January 1888, No. 59 W., Public Works.

Communicated to officers of the Public Works Department, for information and guidance, in continuation of G.O., No. 2569 W., dated 1st October 1886.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. L. C. BADDELEY, Capt., R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ Superintending Engineers.
„ the Consulting Architect to Government.
„ the Engineer-in-Chief, Madras State Railway Surveys.
„ the Public Department, with copy of G.O., No. 2569 W., dated 1st October 1886,
and two spare copies of Government of India Circular, No. 5, P.W.

G.O., dated 1st October 1886, No. 2569 W., Public Works.

Read—the following Circular from A. B. SAMPSON, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (General), to the Government of Madras, &c., &c., dated Simla, 8th September 1886, No. 4, Public Works :—

It has come to the knowledge of the Government of India that owing to permission unfortunately granted by the local authorities to certain contractors to remove stone for construction purposes on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, the extensive ruins of a city of high antiquity and historic interest comprising several temples covered by earth or forest, have been opened up, and very large quantities of stone removed, thereby causing an irreparable loss.

2. The rules of the Public Works Department Code (Chapters III, 74 and 75, and XI, 6) provide for the care and preservation of buildings of architectural and historical interest, but it should be in future distinctly understood that this term comprises ancient ruins of all kinds, and mounds known or likely to contain ruins, and that in all cases of doubt no steps whatever should be taken, otherwise than for their preservation, without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Department.

3. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council trusts that, in the future, effective measures will be taken to prevent the destruction of any ruin of interest, and to ensure that officers of the Government in all departments will act in the spirit of the preceding instructions, referring freely for information and advice to the Archaeological Department. His Excellency confidently reckons on the co-operation of the Local Governments and Administrations in this matter, and desires that the attention of officers charged with the construction of railways and other large works may be specially directed to the necessity for exercising the utmost care in enforcing observance of these instructions by their contractors and subordinates.

Order—dated 1st October 1886, No. 2569-W., Public Works.

Communicated to Superintending Engineers for information and guidance; also to the Consulting Engineer for Railways for special attention, with advertence to paragraph 3.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. O. HASTED,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To Superintending Engineers.
„ the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ the Consulting Architect to Government.
„ the Superintendent of Works, Tank Maintenance Scheme.
„ the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Engineer-in-Chief, Madras State Railway Surveys.

Order—dated 25th January 1888, Mis. No. 97, Public.

Communicated to the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.
Exd. A. Raiff.

PWC No 1939

Gobt. of (1888) Madras.

PUBLIC.

No 1573 W of 15.6.86.

" 1353 W of 17.5.87

" 1696 W of 14.8.87

" 1853 W of 11.7.87

" 3056 W of 12.11.87

" 3286 W of 12.12.87

" 3471 W of 19.12.87

" 2569 W of 1.10.86

Issued

Recd.

28-2-88

Encl.

G.O., 16th February 1888, No. 181.

FEBRUARY.

Archæology.

Passing orders on Director-General's letters in connection with Mr. Rea's report on his recent survey of Buddhist remains near Guntupalle, Godavari district.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

No 749W

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 5th March/88

READ the following

Proceedings of Govt. Public Department. H. E. No. 181 of 16 February 1888.

Communicated to the Suptg. Engineer I Kirele for information.

2. As regards para 3 of the order in the Public Department No. 181, dated 16 February 1888, it is observed that in his letter No. 580 dated 11th October 1887 the Director General recommended that a sum of Rs. 400 or Rs. 500 should be placed at Mr. Rea's disposal for excavations this season during his tour in the Krishna and Godavari Districts. He proposed further that when Mr. Rea began to spend it, "he should send in an estimate stating whether it would be sufficient, or what further sum would be required."

3. A sum of Rs 500 was thereupon allotted to Mr. Rea, in G.O. No. 3286 W of 2nd December 1887, and he was informed that on receipt of an estimate showing the additional amount required, the

question of supplementing the grant would be considered.

4. The estimate has not yet been submitted in compliance with these orders.

5. As, however, it now appears that a further sum of Rs 400 can be utilised for excavations at Guntupalle, the amount is allotted from the current year's budget provision for conservation of ancient monuments.

MCM
1.3.88

MCM
1/3/88

To be returned to B
after despatch
No 749w a/s March 1888

To
The Suptg. Engr. I Circle
" Examiner of P.W. Acts
" Public Department.

Recd 5.3.88

16TH FEBRUARY 1888, No. 181, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

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I have the honor to forward herewith Mr. Rea's report on his recent survey of Buddhist remains in the neighbourhood of Guntupalle, in the Godavari district. His survey of the caves has been complete, and he has discovered several that were previously unknown.

2. It is to be regretted that his partial excavation of one, of what appears to be, a most interesting group of *stupas*, was not carried further; but the obstructiveness of the local Zemindar prevented this, and Mr. Rea wished to avoid anything like collision with him. The universal strong belief prevalent over the Telugu districts, that it is only for treasure that such excavations are ever made, was doubtless the real cause of the opposition.

3. The danger now will be lest the Zemindar, since his attention has been directed to them, should at once attack these unique ancient monuments, and, as the Amaravati Zemindar did, destroy for ever the chances of obtaining the information from them that the survey is intended to elicit. I would therefore venture respectfully to press upon Government the great desirability of securing that they be not intermeddled with. This may probably be most readily attained through the early and judicious influence of the Collector. The Zemindar might be assured that, however strange it may seem to him, the mounds and their sculptures undisturbed are of more public value than treasure; that none is expected in them, but that if, by any chance, such should be found, it would be equitably dealt with by Government under the Treasure Trove Act; and that Government reserves the right of excavation.

4. It seems very desirable to circulate more widely in vernacular, through tahsildars and all village officers, the provisions of the Treasure Trove Act, asking them to make it generally known among the people. From information I receive from all quarters, it does not seem to be at all well known, and the result is that many important and valuable coins go to the silversmith or saukar rather than to Government. The circulars of Government of India, Public Works Department, No. 4 of 8th September 1886 and No. 5 of 14th December 1887, also require a wide circulation among all Government officers.

5. Mr. Rea's report is full of interest, but the full details of his survey can only be given with the drawings he has made, when they are ready for publication.

ENCLOSURE.

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Archæological Surveyor, to the Director-General, Archæological Survey of India, dated Camp, Jiligerigudem, 4th January 1888, No. 5.

With reference to your instructions and paragraph 4 of my tour programme printed in G.O., No. 1650, Public, dated 12th December 1887, I have the honor to state that I arrived here on the 27th ultimo and began the survey of the rock-cut *viharas*, and also to examine and partially excavate the "*stupa* and one of the *dagobas*" mentioned in paragraph 4 of Mr. Sewell's letter in G.O., No. 220, Public, dated 11th February 1887.*

* NOTE.—The existence of the remains would seem to have been first discovered by Dr. W. King, who mentioned them as being near the villages of Nagalapalle and Jiligerigudem. The last named is the nearer, and in describing the place it seems more applicable to use it than Guntupalle, which is further off than any.

2. The *stupas* or *dagobas* are over a dozen in number, and from a close examination of the whole of them, I am convinced they are all of one class. At present, they are simply low, irregular mounds of earth, mixed with bricks, rough stone blocks, with a few circular cut stones lying at different places on their surface, and the whole thickly overgrown with low trees, shrubs and brushwood. I selected one mound for excavation. It measured about 50 feet in diameter and 12 or 15 feet in height. I sunk a shaft down the centre and found, close to the surface, an upright pillar or *stambha*, 3 feet long, with square base, octagonal shaft, and a small circular pin on the top, which may possibly have been used for fixing a sacred umbrella on religious festival occasions. Digging down for 8 feet on one side of the well, I came to the exterior wall of a circular-built *dagoba*. The segment so exposed stood directly under the surface *stambha*, and on the north side of the mound. On exposing it, I carried the digging around the curved stonework so as to lay bare the *stupa*. I found it to be a dome, almost hemispherical in outline, about 25 feet in diameter and built in closely-jointed, horizontal courses of masonry; the whole bore traces of having been whitewashed. The upper portion of the dome was ruined, and I found the coursers, or cut stones, lying some inside and others outside the *stupa* itself. This dome stands on a circular, built basement about 7 feet high, with a projection of 12 inches all round. A channel is cut on the upper surface of the projection. On exposing the *stupa*, I dug a well down its centre to ascertain if it contained any relic casket, but although I carried this down as far as the foundation, I found none. The interior was filled with earth, bricks, rough stone blocks, cut stones fallen from the roof, and bits of ancient, coarse pottery. The whole was intergrown with tree roots, so none of the earthenware was complete.

Around the exterior I dug a trench, and in doing so, discovered some interesting white marble sculptures. They are much weatherworn, and their archaic style leads me to think that they are as ancient, if not anterior to those discovered at Jaggayyapeta by Dr. Burgess. One is the top of a panel 13½ inches broad, with 2½ inches flat surface along the top. Traces of what seem to have been capitals of pilasters appear on each side. The central recessed panel is 9½ inches broad and 1 inch deep. In this is the head of a figure in bas-relief, with halo around it, and a garland (?) over on each side. The sculpture is in two pieces, and the lower portion of the panel is wanting.

Another is a portion of a slab 21 inches long and 8 inches broad. On it is a standing Buddha, 16 inches high, with his left arm bent, over which hangs the flowing drapery of his robe. The features are almost obliterated through long exposure to the weather. The image is archaic in character, yet has the graceful pose so characteristic of Buddhist sculpture. Not far from this last, another was unearthed, which fits on to the image already mentioned. It is the upper, right hand portion of the panelled slab on which the Buddha had been sculptured in bas-relief. It measures 12 inches long, 6 inches broad, and 2½ inches thick. In the panel is the left side of the halo which encircled the head, and over is the half of a double moulded segmental arch with *chakra* and radiating lines introduced as ornaments on the flat; while the apex or extrados is sculptured with a row of *trisulas*. On the right side of the panel is the upper part of a pilaster with moulded capital supporting a recumbent lion (?) over which stands a small image.

In the trench excavated around the east exterior side of the *stupa*, a small cylindrical stone casket was found. It is 4½ inches high, 4½ inches in exterior diameter, with a small hollow cut in it 2½ inches in diameter and 1½ inches deep. Some mortar adheres to the lower portion of the stone, appearing as if it had been fixed upright in some masonry. I believe this to be the relic casket for which we were fruitlessly digging the interior of the *stupa*. Its position where found may be explained if it had been placed in the Tee on the summit of the *dagoba*, which either was, or was intended to represent a relic casket (Fergusson's *Ind. and East. Arch.* 64). When the upper portion of the dome was destroyed it would fall down along with the roof stones, several of which were lying near it. All the fallen dressed stones which formed the upper portion of the dome have been carefully laid to one side, so that, if need be, the ruined portion could easily be restored at very little expense. The lower portions and basement are very solidly built and in perfect preservation. I dug a trench at right angles to the building, but found no traces of a surrounding rail. It is quite possible it may exist, however, at other places in the circumference.

3. On a careful examination and measurement of the positions of the stone pillars, at another part of the ruins, mentioned in paragraph 4 of Mr. Sewell's letter, I ascertained them to be the remains of an extensive pillared mandapa which had once stood there. Several piers stand erect, and the broken bases of others still remain. The former places of the fallen pillars can be easily traced from the position in which they now lie. I cleared the earth around them and found all the fallen stones were piers, without any trace of built walls.

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rock cuttings noted by Mr. Sewell in his letter to Government, there are other two groups of caves at some considerable distance up the hill. They are much weatherworn, the doors and windows have arched heads and they have the wooden features repeated in stone similar to those of the principal *vihara*.

5. The discovery of the marbles is important, as it proves that such sculptures do exist here and probably in considerable number. The work of excavation, however, is one of extreme difficulty and cannot be entrusted even to the most intelligent of my staff, but requires my almost constant personal supervision. In addition to the mound covering the *stupas*, they themselves apparently stand about 8 or 10 feet below the present ground surface. While examining another *stupa* I picked up three pieces of white marble on the surface of the ground, and I doubt not that a regular excavation would bring others to light. I also found several slabs of a white slate, which I think must have been used for paving: these latter I have left in one of the rooms of the *vihara*. The work to be properly carried out would require a special grant of Rs. 400 or 500. Not only would the thick brushwood and trees which cover and are destroying the mounds have to be removed, but the earth itself is so mixed with boulders and stones that the work is one of considerable difficulty. With the time at my disposal I was only able partly to excavate one, and that not even down to the base line all round. I would suggest that a special grant be asked for the work of excavation next season, and, to facilitate the operation, the Collector might be authorized to have the jungle covering the *stupas* cut down beforehand. It would be a pity were such a fine group to remain unexplored. At no other known place in the south are such a number collected together, and these if uncovered might rival some of the groups in the north.

6. From the extensive nature of the rock-cut *viharas* and the large number of *stupas*, the place must have been one of considerable religious importance in the early centuries of the Christian era. Being so, it could hardly have escaped the attention of the Chinese pilgrims who visited India. It may therefore be interesting to see whether its situation might not correspond with any of the monasteries described by them, and whose supposed site is at present considered by scholars as doubtfully fixed.

7. A curious matter in regard to these *stupas* is that they are without doubt intended to stand clear of any artificial covering. The question therefore arises.—Why are they hidden in mounds which have not been formed naturally, but are artificially made up of packed stones and earth? I can only account for it on the supposition that the Buddhists on being driven from the place raised these mounds over their shrines to protect them from the iconoclasts of the time, doubtless thinking that at some time or other they might return thither. The pillared mandapa before referred to shows that the fallen pillars have been wilfully thrown down, probably by fire. Many of the stumps remain, while the shafts lie broken alongside.

8. On coming here, I proceeded at once with the excavations above described and the cutting down of some jungle bushes from the front of the *viharas*, so that photos of each might be taken. On the morning of the 30th ultimo I was told by the village munsif that the place was not Government property, but belonged to Narayana Deva Raja, the Zemindar of Guntupalle, who had said that if I found and took away anything, I did so without his consent. The place not being Government property had not been mentioned by Mr. Sewell. I at once requested an interview and explained the object of the work and asked if he had any objection to its being carried on. He then stated that he had none, and that the work might proceed. I learned, however, as the excavation of the *stupa* brought to light its true character and resemblance to the cave "linga," that efforts were being made to prevent the coolies working for me. He also endeavoured to get possession of the marble images excavated, stating that I might take photos or drawings of them, but that the objects themselves were to be kept by him. As an excuse he stated that, had I found a golden image, it would be taken also. The provisions of the *Treasure Trove Act* seem to be unknown in this remote place. As the marbles could be of no possible interest or value to him, and as his objection was dictated by a spirit of obstructiveness, I declined to leave them, as I have no doubt that had I done so they would certainly have been destroyed. I stated however, that I would deposit them with the Tahsildar of Ellore, with whom they could remain till the orders of Government were received as to their disposal. He then informed my clerk that he had removed any objection to my taking them. I would request therefore that they may be sent to the Government Museum in Madras. The Telugu name for white marble and for the white slate slabs found at these places is "Nappa raya," and I was told each does equally well for burning into chunam. Had I left the slabs here, it is almost a certainty that they would have gone in the same or a similar way, as many of the Amaravati sculptures did.

9. In the progress of the work I received not the slightest assistance from the Zemindar; and if work is to be further carried out at this place, it might be well to count on this and make provision against such ignorant obstruction beforehand. The strong belief that such excavations are only undertaken in search of treasure is the source of this obstructiveness. Had it not been for Tumbana Subbaya, the village munsif, who, though an unpaid servant of Government, did everything he possibly could in the providing of supplies and coolies, I should have been able to do little or no excavation here at all.

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D., C.I.E., Director-General, Archaeological Survey of India, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Mathura, N.W.P., 23rd January 1888, No. 101.

In continuation of my letter, No. 76, of 18th instant, I have the honor to add that Mr. Rea has since suggested to me that, were a grant of about Rs. 400 allowed him for excavations at Guntupalle and arrangements made by the Collector of Godávári with the Zemindar to prevent interference, he thinks he would be able to return to the place this season, after finishing at Amarávati, and carry out the excavations that seem so promising of interesting results.

2. I would venture to commend this proposal cordially to the favorable consideration of Government at as early a date as convenient. Mr. Rea's presence is indispensable whenever the excavations are made, and if they can be completed this season, it would save the time and expense of a future visit to the locality. Any objects discovered should be transmitted to the Government Central Museum at Madras.

ORDER—dated 16th February 1888, No. 181, Public.

Recorded.

2. The Government note with regret that Mr. Rea's excavations were interrupted through the obstructive action of the Zemindar of Guntupalle. The Collector will endeavour to remove the Zemindar's objections and prevent any local interference with antiquarian remains, as suggested by Dr. Burgess in paragraph 3 of his letter. He will at the same time convey the commendation of Government to the village munsif referred to at the close of Mr. Rea's report.

2. All Collectors will be directed to re-publish Act VI of 1878, and the rules framed under it (G.O., 7th September 1878, No. 1350,) in their District Gazettes. Dr. Burgess will have learned from G.O., 25th January 1888, No. 97, that attention has been called in the Public Works Department to the Government of India circulars referred to in paragraph 4 of his letter. This order will now be printed and communicated to all Collectors.

3. Dr. Burgess' second letter read above will be considered in the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.

„ the Collector of Godávári.

„ all other Collectors.

„ the Public Works Department.

„ the Revenue Department.

„ A. Rea, Esq., First Assistant, Archaeological Survey.

„ R. Sewell, Esq., M.C.S.

Copy to the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, London.

„ „ President, Asiatic Society of Bengal.

„ „ Secretary, Madras Literary and Scientific Society.

APPENDIX.

G.O., dated 25th January 1888, *Mis. No. 97, Public.*

Read—the following G.O., dated 7th January 1888, No. 59 W., Public Works.

Read—the following Circular from G. H. D. WALKER, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (General), to the Government of Madras, &c., &c., dated Fort William, 14th December 1887, No. 5, Public Works :—

[Objects of archaeological or historical interest not to be disturbed without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Survey Department.]

In forwarding for the information of the Government of Madras the accompanying copy of a letter received from the Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India, I am directed to invite attention to

Circular No. 4, dated the 8th September 1886, and to request that orders may be issued enjoining the careful observance of the instructions conveyed therein.

2. I am further to request that, so far as possible, measures may be taken to prevent any object of archaeological or historical interest being excavated or otherwise disturbed in the manner referred to in Dr. Burgess' letter, without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Survey Department; and that special attention of the local authorities may be called to the cases quoted, in which a neglect of this precaution has apparently led to the loss of much information of great archaeological interest.

ENCLOSURE.

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D., C.I.E., Director-General, Archaeological Survey of India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, dated Simla, 17th October 1887, No. 620.

From a paper that has recently appeared in the Bengal Asiatic Society's Journal, I observe that an ancient Buddhist stupa at Mordhvaj, 27 miles north-east of Bijnaur, mentioned by General Cunningham (Archaeological Survey Reports, Volume II, pages 237-38), must have been recently excavated without any reference to this department, and other remains have been similarly excavated in Ghazipur, at Bhitari and elsewhere.

2. However carefully the contents of relics found in ancient mounds may in some cases be collected and forwarded to the Provincial Museums by the excavators, the excavations themselves always destroy those indications of purpose and arrangement that the specialist alone would notice, and which are of as much interest as the objects found. It is most desirable that every detail that can be secured by the best modes of excavation, and which only the expert would know where and how to look for, should be acquired. No one can readily conceive what must have been lost by the unscientific excavation and destruction of the many Buddhist remains that might be named. So many have already been utterly destroyed, in search only for their contents, and so few of them are now left, that it seems most desirable they should be strictly guarded from further destruction, or excavated only under the most experienced direction, not so much for the "finds" they may contain, as to discover, if possible, their original characters and the arrangements connected with their purposes and uses. This object seems to have been lost sight of in Upper India, and the excavations made of late years seem to have been conducted with but little scientific care. Archaeological excavation is now a very different work from what it was half a century ago, and requires knowledge and experience. A distinct arrangement should also be made for the transmission to the public museums of every object found in any excavation.

No. 2476-G.

Copy forwarded to the Revenue and Agricultural Department for information.
Original papers returned.

(By order.)

(Signed) G. H. D. WALKER,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Order—dated 7th January 1888, No. 59 W., Public Works.

Communicated to officers of the Public Works Department, for information and guidance, in continuation of G.O., No. 2569 W., dated 1st October 1886.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. L. C. BADDELEY, Capt., R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ Superintending Engineers.
„ the Consulting Architect to Government.
„ the Engineer-in-Chief, Madras State Railway Surveys.
„ the Public Department, with copy of G.O., No. 2569 W., dated 1st October 1886,
and two spare copies of Government of India Circular, No. 5, P.W.

G.O., dated 1st October 1886, No. 2569 W., Public Works.

Read—the following Circular from A. B. SAMPSON, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (General), to the Government of Madras, &c., &c., dated Simla, 8th September 1886, No. 4, Public Works :—

It has come to the knowledge of the Government of India that owing to permission unfortunately granted by the local authorities to certain contractors to remove stone for construction purposes on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, the extensive ruins of a city of high antiquity and historic interest comprising several temples covered by earth or forest, have been opened up, and very large quantities of stone removed, thereby causing an irreparable loss.

2. The rules of the Public Works Department Code (Chapters III, 74 and 75, and XI, 6) provide for the care and preservation of buildings of architectural and historical interest, but it should be in future distinctly understood that this term comprises ancient ruins of all kinds, and mounds known or likely to contain ruins, and that in all cases of doubt no steps whatever should be taken, otherwise than for their preservation, without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Department.

3. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council trusts that, in the future, effective measures will be taken to prevent the destruction of any ruin of interest, and to ensure that officers of the Government in all departments will act in the spirit of the preceding instructions, referring freely for information and advice to the Archaeological Department. His Excellency confidently reckons on the co-operation of the Local Governments and Administrations in this matter, and desires that the attention of officers charged with the construction of railways and other large works may be specially directed to the necessity for exercising the utmost care in enforcing observance of these instructions by their contractors and subordinates.

Order—dated 1st October 1886, No. 2569-W., Public Works.

Communicated to Superintending Engineers for information and guidance; also to the Consulting Engineer for Railways for special attention, with advertence to paragraph 3.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. O. HASTED,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To Superintending Engineers.
„ the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ the Consulting Architect to Government.
„ the Superintendent of Works, Tank Maintenance Scheme.
„ the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Engineer-in-Chief, Madras State Railway Surveys.

Order—dated 25th January 1888, Mis. No. 97, Public.

Communicated to the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.
Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of 1888 Madras.

PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 16th February 1888, No. 181.

FEBRUARY.

Archæology.

Passing orders on Director-General's letters in connection with Mr. Rea's report on his recent survey of Buddhist remains near Guntupalle, Godávári district.

16TH FEBRUARY 1888, No. 181, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D, C.I.E., Director-General, Archæological Survey of India, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Mathura, 18th January 1888, No. 76.

I have the honor to forward herewith Mr. Rea's report on his recent survey of Buddhist remains in the neighbourhood of Guntupalle, in the Godávári district. His survey of the caves has been complete, and he has discovered several that were previously unknown.

2. It is to be regretted that his partial excavation of one, of what appears to be, a most interesting group of stupas, was not carried further; but the obstructiveness of the local Zemindar prevented this, and Mr. Rea wished to avoid anything like collision with him. The universal strong belief prevalent over the Telugu districts, that it is only for treasure that such excavations are ever made, was doubtless the real cause of the opposition.

3. The danger now will be lest the Zemindar, since his attention has been directed to them, should at once attack these unique ancient monuments, and, as the Amarávati Zemindar did, destroy for ever the chances of obtaining the information from them that the survey is intended to elicit. I would therefore venture respectfully to press upon Government the great desirability of securing that they be not intermeddled with. This may probably be most readily attained through the early and judicious influence of the Collector. The Zemindar might be assured that, however strange it may seem to him, the mounds and their sculptures undisturbed are of more public value than treasure; that none is expected in them, but that if, by any chance, such should be found, it would be equitably dealt with by Government under the Treasure Trove Act; and that Government reserves the right of excavation.

4. It seems very desirable to circulate more widely in vernacular, through tahsildars and all village officers, the provisions of the Treasure Trove Act, asking them to make it generally known among the people. From information I receive from all quarters, it does not seem to be at all well known, and the result is that many important and valuable coins go to the silversmith or saukar rather than to Government. The circulars of Government of India, Public Works Department, No. 4 of 8th September 1886 and No. 5 of 14th December 1887, also require a wide circulation among all Government officers.

5. Mr. Rea's report is full of interest, but the full details of his survey can only be given with the drawings he has made, when they are ready for publication.

ENCLOSURE.

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Archæological Surveyor, to the Director-General, Archæological Survey of India, dated Camp, Jilligerigudem, 4th January 1888, No. 5.

With reference to your instructions and paragraph 4 of my tour programme printed in G.O., No. 1650, Public, dated 12th December 1887, I have the honor to state that I arrived here on the 27th ultimo and began the survey of the rock-cut viharas, and also to examine and partially excavate the "stupa and one of the dagobas" mentioned in paragraph 4 of Mr. Sewell's letter in G.O., No. 220, Public, dated 11th February 1887.*

* NOTE.—The existence of the remains would seem to have been first discovered by Dr. W. King, who mentioned them as being near the villages of Nagalapalle and Jilligerigudem. The last named is the nearer, and in describing the place it seems more applicable to use it than Guntupalle, which is further off than any.

2. The *stupas* or *dagobas* are over a dozen in number, and from a close examination of the whole of them, I am convinced they are all of one class. At present, they are simply low, irregular mounds of earth, mixed with bricks, rough stone blocks, with a few circular cut stones lying at different places on their surface, and the whole thickly overgrown with low trees, shrubs and brushwood. I selected one mound for excavation. It measured about 50 feet in diameter and 12 or 15 feet in height. I sunk a shaft down the centre and found, close to the surface, an upright pillar or *stambha*, 3 feet long, with square base, octagonal shaft, and a small circular pin on the top, which may possibly have been used for fixing a sacred umbrella on religious festival occasions. Digging down for 8 feet on one side of the well, I came to the exterior wall of a circular-built *dagoba*. The segment so exposed stood directly under the surface *stambha*, and on the north side of the mound. On exposing it, I carried the digging around the curved stonework so as to lay bare the *stupa*. I found it to be a dome, almost hemispherical in outline, about 25 feet in diameter and built in closely-jointed, horizontal courses of masonry; the whole bore traces of having been whitewashed. The upper portion of the dome was ruined, and I found the courses, or cut stones, lying some inside and others outside the *stupa* itself. This dome stands on a circular, built basement about 7 feet high, with a projection of 12 inches all round. A channel is cut on the upper surface of the projection. On exposing the *stupa*, I dug a well down its centre to ascertain if it contained any relic casket, but although I carried this down as far as the foundation, I found none. The interior was filled with earth, bricks, rough stone blocks, cut stones fallen from the roof, and bits of ancient, coarse pottery. The whole was intergrown with tree roots, so none of the earthenware was complete.

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7. A curious matter in regard to these *stupas* is that they are without doubt intended to stand clear of any artificial covering. The question therefore arises.—Why are they hidden in mounds which have not been formed naturally, but are artificially made up of packed stones and earth? I can only account for it on the supposition that the Buddhists on being driven from the place raised these mounds over their shrines to protect them from the iconoclasts of the time, doubtless thinking that at some time or other they might return thither. The pillared mandapa before referred to shows that the fallen pillars have been wilfully thrown down, probably by fire. Many of the stumps remain, while the shafts lie broken alongside.

8. On coming here, I proceeded at once with the excavations above described and the cutting down of some jungle bushes from the front of the *viharas*, so that photos of each might be taken. On the morning of the 30th ultimo I was told by the village munsif that the place was not Government property, but belonged to Narayana Deva Raja, the Zemindar of Guntupalle, who had said that if I found and took away anything, I did so without his consent. The place not being Government property had not been mentioned by Mr. Sewell. I at once requested an interview and explained the object of the work and asked if he had any objection to its being carried on. He then stated that he had none, and that the work might proceed. I learned, however, as the excavation of the *stupa* brought to light its true character and resemblance to the cave "linga," that efforts were being made to prevent the coolies working for me. He also endeavoured to get possession of the marble images excavated, stating that I might take photos or drawings of them, but that the objects themselves were to be kept by him. As an excuse he stated that, had I found a golden image, it would be taken also. The provisions of the *Treasure Trove Act* seem to be unknown in this remote place. As the marbles could be of no possible interest or value to him, and as his objection was dictated by a spirit of obstructiveness, I declined to leave them, as I have no doubt that had I done so they would certainly have been destroyed. I stated however, that I would deposit them with the Tahsildar of Ellore, with whom they could remain till the orders of Government were received as to their disposal. He then informed my clerk that he had removed any objection to my taking them. I would request therefore that they may be sent to the Government Museum in Madras. The Telugu name for white marble and for the white slate slabs found at these places is "Nappa raya," and I was told each does equally well for burning into chunam. Had I left the slabs here, it is almost a certainty that they would have gone in the same or a similar way, as many of the Amaravati sculptures did.

9. In the progress of the work I received not the slightest assistance from the Zemindar; and if work is to be further carried out at this place, it might be well to count on this and make provision against such ignorant obstruction beforehand. The strong belief that such excavations are only undertaken in search of treasure is the source of this obstructiveness. Had it not been for Tumbana Subbaya, the village munsif, who, though an unpaid servant of Government, did everything he possibly could in the providing of supplies and coolies, I should have been able to do little or no excavation here at all.

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D., C.I.E., Director-General, Archaeological Survey of India, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Mathura, N.W.P., 23rd January 1888, No. 101.

In continuation of my letter, No. 76, of 18th instant, I have the honor to add that Mr. Rea has since suggested to me that, were a grant of about Rs. 400 allowed him for excavations at Guntupalle and arrangements made by the Collector of Godavari with the Zemindar to prevent interference, he thinks he would be able to return to the place this season, after finishing at Amaravati, and carry out the excavations that seem so promising of interesting results.

2. I would venture to commend this proposal cordially to the favorable consideration of Government at as early a date as convenient. Mr. Rea's presence is indispensable whenever the excavations are made, and if they can be completed this season, it would save the time and expense of a future visit to the locality. Any objects discovered should be transmitted to the Government Central Museum at Madras.

ORDER—dated 16th February 1888, No. 181, Public.

Recorded.

2. The Government note with regret that Mr. Rea's excavations were interrupted through the obstructive action of the Zemindar of Guntupalle. The Collector will endeavour to remove the Zemindar's objections and prevent any local interference with antiquarian remains, as suggested by Dr. Burgess in paragraph 3 of his letter. He will at the same time convey the commendation of Government to the village munsif referred to at the close of Mr. Rea's report.

2. All Collectors will be directed to re-publish Act VI of 1878, and the rules framed under it (G.O., 7th September 1878, No. 1350,) in their District Gazettes. Dr. Burgess will have learned from G.O., 25th January 1888, No. 97, that attention has been called in the Public Works Department to the Government of India circulars referred to in paragraph 4 of his letter. This order will now be printed and communicated to all Collectors.

3. Dr. Burgess' second letter read above will be considered in the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.
" the Collector of Godavari.
" all other Collectors.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Revenue Department.
" A. Rea, Esq., First Assistant, Archaeological Survey.
" R. Sewell, Esq., M.C.S.

Copy to the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, London.
" " President, Asiatic Society of Bengal.
" " Secretary, Madras Literary and Scientific Society.

APPENDIX.

G.O., dated 25th January 1888, Mis. No. 97, Public.

Read—the following G.O., dated 7th January 1888, No. 59 W., Public Works.

Read—the following Circular from G. H. D. WALKER, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (General), to the Government of Madras, &c., &c., dated Fort William, 14th December 1887, No. 5, Public Works:—

[Objects of archaeological or historical interest not to be disturbed without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Survey Department.]

In forwarding for the information of the Government of Madras the accompanying copy of a letter received from the Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India, I am directed to invite attention to

Circular No. 4, dated the 8th September 1886, and to request that orders may be issued enjoining the careful observance of the instructions conveyed therein.

2. I am further to request that, so far as possible, measures may be taken to prevent any object of archaeological or historical interest being excavated or otherwise disturbed in the manner referred to in Dr. Burgess' letter, without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Survey Department; and that special attention of the local authorities may be called to the cases quoted, in which a neglect of this precaution has apparently led to the loss of much information of great archaeological interest.

ENCLOSURE.

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D., C.I.E., Director-General, Archaeological Survey of India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, dated Simla, 17th October 1887, No. 620.

From a paper that has recently appeared in the Bengal Asiatic Society's Journal, I observe that an ancient Buddhist stupa at Mordhvaj, 27 miles north-east of Bijnaur, mentioned by General Cunningham (Archaeological Survey Reports, Volume II, pages 237-38), must have been recently excavated without any reference to this department, and other remains have been similarly excavated in Ghazipur, at Bhitari and elsewhere.

2. However carefully the contents of relics found in ancient mounds may in some cases be collected and forwarded to the Provincial Museums by the excavators, the excavations themselves always destroy those indications of purpose and arrangement that the specialist alone would notice, and which are of as much interest as the objects found. It is most desirable that every detail that can be secured by the best modes of excavation, and which only the expert would know where and how to look for, should be acquired. No one can readily conceive what must have been lost by the unscientific excavation and destruction of the many Buddhist remains that might be named. So many have already been utterly destroyed, in search only for their contents, and so few of them are now left, that it seems most desirable they should be strictly guarded from further destruction, or excavated only under the most experienced direction, not so much for the "finds" they may contain, as to discover, if possible, their original characters and the arrangements connected with their purposes and uses. This object seems to have been lost sight of in Upper India, and the excavations made of late years seem to have been conducted with but little scientific care. Archaeological excavation is now a very different work from what it was half a century ago, and requires knowledge and experience. A distinct arrangement should also be made for the transmission to the public museums of every object found in any excavation.

No. 2476-G.

Copy forwarded to the Revenue and Agricultural Department for information.
Original papers returned.

(By order.)

(Signed) G. H. D. WALKER,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Order—dated 7th January 1888, No. 59 W., Public Works.

Communicated to officers of the Public Works Department, for information and guidance, in continuation of G.O., No. 2569 W., dated 1st October 1886.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. L. C. BADDELEY, Capt., R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ Superintending Engineers.
„ the Consulting Architect to Government.
„ the Engineer-in-Chief, Madras State Railway Surveys.
„ the Public Department, with copy of G.O., No. 2569 W., dated 1st October 1886,
and two spare copies of Government of India Circular, No. 5, P.W.

G.O., dated 1st October 1886, No. 2569 W., Public Works.

Read—the following Circular from A. B. SAMPSON, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (General), to the Government of Madras, &c., &c., dated Simla, 8th September 1886, No. 4, Public Works:—

It has come to the knowledge of the Government of India that owing to permission unfortunately granted by the local authorities to certain contractors to remove stone for construction purposes on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, the extensive ruins of a city of high antiquity and historic interest comprising several temples covered by earth or forest, have been opened up, and very large quantities of stone removed, thereby causing an irreparable loss.

2. The rules of the Public Works Department Code (Chapters III, 74 and 75, and XI, 6) provide for the care and preservation of buildings of architectural and historical interest, but it should be in future distinctly understood that this term comprises ancient ruins of all kinds, and mounds known or likely to contain ruins, and that in all cases of doubt no steps whatever should be taken, otherwise than for their preservation, without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Department.

3. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council trusts that, in the future, effective measures will be taken to prevent the destruction of any ruin of interest, and to ensure that officers of the Government in all departments will act in the spirit of the preceding instructions, referring freely for information and advice to the Archaeological Department. His Excellency confidently reckons on the co-operation of the Local Governments and Administrations in this matter, and desires that the attention of officers charged with the construction of railways and other large works may be specially directed to the necessity for exercising the utmost care in enforcing observance of these instructions by their contractors and subordinates.

Order—dated 1st October 1886, No. 2569-W., Public Works.

Communicated to Superintending Engineers for information and guidance; also to the Consulting Engineer for Railways for special attention, with advertence to paragraph 3.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. O. HASTED,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To Superintending Engineers.
„ the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ the Consulting Architect to Government.
„ the Superintendent of Works, Tank Maintenance Scheme.
„ the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Engineer-in-Chief, Madras State Railway Surveys.

Order—dated 25th January 1888, Mis. No. 97, Public.

Communicated to the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.
Exd. A. Raiff.

Gobt. of (1888) Madras.

PUBLIC.

G.O., 16th February 1888, No. 181.

FEBRUARY.

Archæology.

Passing orders on Director-General's letters in connection with Mr. Rea's report on his recent survey of Buddhist remains near Guntupalle, Godáviri district.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

16TH FEBRUARY 1888, No. 181, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D., C.I.E., Director-General, Archæological Survey of India, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Mathura, 18th January 1888, No. 76.

I have the honor to forward herewith Mr. Rea's report on his recent survey of Buddhist remains in the neighbourhood of Guntupalle, in the Godáviri district. His survey of the caves has been complete, and he has discovered several that were previously unknown.

2. It is to be regretted that his partial excavation of one, of what appears to be, a most interesting group of *stupas*, was not carried further; but the obstructiveness of the local Zemindar prevented this, and Mr. Rea wished to avoid anything like collision with him. The universal strong belief prevalent over the Telugu districts, that it is only for treasure that such excavations are ever made, was doubtless the real cause of the opposition.

3. The danger now will be lest the Zemindar, since his attention has been directed to them, should at once attack these unique ancient monuments, and, as the Amarávati Zemindar did, destroy for ever the chances of obtaining the information from them that the survey is intended to elicit. I would therefore venture respectfully to press upon Government the great desirability of securing that they be not intermeddled with. This may probably be most readily attained through the early and judicious influence of the Collector. The Zemindar might be assured that, however strange it may seem to him, the mounds and their sculptures undisturbed are of more public value than treasure; that none is expected in them, but that if, by any chance, such should be found, it would be equitably dealt with by Government under the Treasure Trove Act; and that Government reserves the right of excavation.

4. It seems very desirable to circulate more widely in vernacular, through tahsildars and all village officers, the provisions of the Treasure Trove Act, asking them to make it generally known among the people. From information I receive from all quarters, it does not seem to be at all well known, and the result is that many important and valuable coins go to the silversmith or saukar rather than to Government. The circulars of Government of India, Public Works Department, No. 4 of 8th September 1886 and No. 5 of 14th December 1887, also require a wide circulation among all Government officers.

5. Mr. Rea's report is full of interest, but the full details of his survey can only be given with the drawings he has made, when they are ready for publication.

ENCLOSURE.

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Archæological Surveyor, to the Director-General, Archæological Survey of India, dated Camp, Jilligerigudem, 4th January 1888, No. 5.

With reference to your instructions and paragraph 4 of my tour programme printed in G.O., No. 1650, Public, dated 12th December 1887, I have the honor to state that I arrived here on the 27th ultimo and began the survey of the rock-cut *viharas*, and also to examine and partially excavate the "*stupa* and one of the *dagobas*" mentioned in paragraph 4 of Mr. Sewell's letter in G.O., No. 220, Public, dated 11th February 1887.*

* NOTE.—The existence of the remains would seem to have been first discovered by Dr. W. King, who mentioned them as being near the villages of Nagalapalle and Jilligerigudem. The last named is the nearer, and in describing the place it seems more applicable to use it than Guntupalle, which is further off than any.

2. The *stupas* or *dagobas* are over a dozen in number, and from a close examination of the whole of them, I am convinced they are all of one class. At present, they are simply low, irregular mounds of earth, mixed with bricks, rough stone blocks, with a few circular cut stones lying at different places on their surface, and the whole thickly overgrown with low trees, shrubs and brushwood. I selected one mound for excavation. It measured about 50 feet in diameter and 12 or 15 feet in height. I sunk a shaft down the centre and found, close to the surface, an upright pillar or *stambha*, 3 feet long, with square base, octagonal shaft, and a small circular pin on the top, which may possibly have been used for fixing a sacred umbrella on religious festival occasions. Digging down for 8 feet on one side of the well, I came to the exterior wall of a circular-built *dagoba*. The segment so exposed stood directly under the surface *stambha*, and on the north side of the mound. On exposing it, I carried the digging around the curved stonework so as to lay bare the *stupa*. I found it to be a dome, almost hemispherical in outline, about 25 feet in diameter and built in closely-jointed, horizontal courses of masonry; the whole bore traces of having been whitewashed. The upper portion of the dome was ruined, and I found the courses, or cut stones, lying some inside and others outside the *stupa* itself. This dome stands on a circular, built basement about 7 feet high, with a projection of 12 inches all round. A channel is cut on the upper surface of the projection. On exposing the *stupa*, I dug a well down its centre to ascertain if it contained any relic casket, but although I carried this down as far as the foundation, I found none. The interior was filled with earth, bricks, rough stone blocks, cut stones fallen from the roof, and bits of ancient, coarse pottery. The whole was intergrown with tree roots, so none of the earthenware was complete.

Around the exterior I dug a trench, and in doing so, discovered some interesting white marble sculptures. They are much weatherworn, and their archaic style leads me to think that they are as ancient, if not anterior to those discovered at Jaggayyapeta by Dr. Burgess. One is the top of a panel 13½ inches broad, with 2½ inches flat surface along the top. Traces of what seem to have been capitals of pilasters appear on each side. The central recessed panel is 9½ inches broad and 1 inch deep. In this is the head of a figure in bas-relief, with halo around it, and a garland (?) over on each side. The sculpture is in two pieces, and the lower portion of the panel is wanting.

Another is a portion of a slab 21 inches long and 8 inches broad. On it is a standing Buddha, 16 inches high, with his left arm bent, over which hangs the flowing drapery of his robe. The features are almost obliterated through long exposure to the weather. The image is archaic in character, yet has the graceful pose so characteristic of Buddhist sculpture. Not far from this last, another was unearthed, which fits on to the image already mentioned. It is the upper, right hand portion of the panelled slab on which the Buddha had been sculptured in bas-relief. It measures 12 inches long, 6 inches broad, and 2½ inches thick. In the panel is the left side of the halo which encircled the head, and over is the half of a double moulded segmental arch with *chakra* and radiating lines introduced as ornaments on the flat; while the apex or extrados is sculptured with a row of *trisulas*. On the right side of the panel is the upper part of a pilaster with moulded capital supporting a recumbent lion (?) over which stands a small image.

In the trench excavated around the east exterior side of the *stupa*, a small cylindrical stone casket was found. It is 4½ inches high, 4¼ inches in exterior diameter, with a small hollow cut in it 2¼ inches in diameter and 1½ inches deep. Some mortar adheres to the lower portion of the stone, appearing as if it had been fixed upright in some masonry. I believe this to be the relic casket for which we were fruitlessly digging the interior of the *stupa*. Its position where found may be explained if it had been placed in the Tee on the summit of the *dagoba*, which either was, or was intended to represent a relic casket (Fergusson's *Ind. and East. Arch.* 64). When the upper portion of the dome was destroyed it would fall down along with the roof stones, several of which were lying near it. All the fallen dressed stones which formed the upper portion of the dome have been carefully laid to one side, so that, if need be, the ruined portion could easily be restored at very little expense. The lower portions and basement are very solidly built and in perfect preservation. I dug a trench at right angles to the building, but found no traces of a surrounding rail. It is quite possible it may exist, however, at other places in the circumference.

3. On a careful examination and measurement of the positions of the stone pillars, at another part of the ruins, mentioned in paragraph 4 of Mr. Sewell's letter, I ascertained them to be the remains of an extensive pillared mandapa which had once stood there. Several piers stand erect, and the broken bases of others still remain. The former places of the fallen pillars can be easily traced from the position in which they now lie. I cleared the earth around them and found all the fallen stones were piers, without any trace of built walls.

4. The Jiligerigudem rock-cut caves and *viharas* have been carefully drawn to a large scale, and I find that the larger entrance doors to the principal *vihara*, each and all, present the same peculiarity already noticed in the small circular cave, that is, the door jambs slope outwards or "batter" from the floor up to the springing line of the arch, so that the width of the door at the sill is several inches less than that at the bottom of the arch. This important point has been omitted and there are several other mistakes in the drawings already published. In addition to the

rock cuttings noted by Mr. Sewell in his letter to Government, there are other two groups of caves at some considerable distance up the hill. They are much weatherworn, the doors and windows have arched heads and they have the wooden features repeated in stone similar to those of the principal *vihara*.

5. The discovery of the marbles is important, as it proves that such sculptures do exist here and probably in considerable number. The work of excavation, however, is one of extreme difficulty and cannot be entrusted even to the most intelligent of my staff, but requires my almost constant personal supervision. In addition to the mound covering the *stupas*, they themselves apparently stand about 8 or 10 feet below the present ground surface. While examining another *stupa* I picked up three pieces of white marble on the surface of the ground, and I doubt not that a regular excavation would bring others to light. I also found several slabs of a white slate, which I think must have been used for paving: these latter I have left in one of the rooms of the *vihara*. The work to be properly carried out would require a special grant of Rs. 400 or 500. Not only would the thick brushwood and trees which cover and are destroying the mounds have to be removed, but the earth itself is so mixed with boulders and stones that the work is one of considerable difficulty. With the time at my disposal I was only able partly to excavate one, and that not even down to the base line all round. I would suggest that a special grant be asked for the work of excavation next season, and, to facilitate the operation, the Collector might be authorized to have the jungle covering the *stupas* cut down beforehand. It would be a pity were such a fine group to remain unexplored. At no other known place in the south are such a number collected together, and these if uncovered might rival some of the groups in the north.

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ORDER—dated 16th February 1888, No. 181, Public.

Recorded.

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3. Dr. Burgess' second letter read above will be considered in the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.

„ the Collector of Godáviri.

„ all other Collectors.

„ the Public Works Department.

„ the Revenue Department.

„ A. Rea, Esq., First Assistant, Archaeological Survey.

„ R. Sewell, Esq., M.C.S.

Copy to the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, London.

„ „ President, Asiatic Society of Bengal.

„ „ Secretary, Madras Literary and Scientific Society.

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Circular No. 4, dated the 8th September 1886, and to request that orders may be issued enjoining the careful observance of the instructions conveyed therein.

2. I am further to request that, so far as possible, measures may be taken to prevent any object of archaeological or historical interest being excavated or otherwise disturbed in the manner referred to in Dr. Burgess' letter, without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Survey Department; and that special attention of the local authorities may be called to the cases quoted, in which a neglect of this precaution has apparently led to the loss of much information of great archaeological interest.

ENCLOSURE.

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D., C.I.E., Director-General, Archaeological Survey of India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, dated Simla, 17th October 1887, No. 620.

From a paper that has recently appeared in the Bengal Asiatic Society's Journal, I observe that an ancient Buddhist stupa at Mordhvaj, 27 miles north-east of Bijnaur, mentioned by General Cunningham (Archaeological Survey Reports, Volume II, pages 237-38), must have been recently excavated without any reference to this department, and other remains have been similarly excavated in Ghazipur, at Bhitari and elsewhere.

2. However carefully the contents of relics found in ancient mounds may in some cases be collected and forwarded to the Provincial Museums by the excavators, the excavations themselves always destroy those indications of purpose and arrangement that the specialist alone would notice, and which are of as much interest as the objects found. It is most desirable that every detail that can be secured by the best modes of excavation, and which only the expert would know where and how to look for, should be acquired. No one can readily conceive what must have been lost by the unscientific excavation and destruction of the many Buddhist remains that might be named. So many have already been utterly destroyed, in search only for their contents, and so few of them are now left, that it seems most desirable they should be strictly guarded from further destruction, or excavated only under the most experienced direction, not so much for the "finds" they may contain, as to discover, if possible, their original characters and the arrangements connected with their purposes and uses. This object seems to have been lost sight of in Upper India, and the excavations made of late years seem to have been conducted with but little scientific care. Archaeological excavation is now a very different work from what it was half a century ago, and requires knowledge and experience. A distinct arrangement should also be made for the transmission to the public museums of every object found in any excavation.

No. 2476-G.

Copy forwarded to the Revenue and Agricultural Department for information.
Original papers returned.

(By order.)

(Signed) G. H. D. WALKER,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Order—dated 7th January 1888, No. 59 W., Public Works.

Communicated to officers of the Public Works Department, for information and guidance, in continuation of G.O., No. 2569 W., dated 1st October 1886.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. L. C. BADDELEY, Capt., R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ Superintending Engineers.
„ the Consulting Architect to Government.
„ the Engineer-in-Chief, Madras State Railway Surveys.
„ the Public Department, with copy of G.O., No. 2569 W., dated 1st October 1886,
and two spare copies of Government of India Circular, No. 5, P.W.

G.O., dated 1st October 1886, No. 2569 W., Public Works.

Read—the following Circular from A. B. SAMPSON, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (General), to the Government of Madras, &c., &c., dated Simla, 8th September 1886, No. 4, Public Works:—

It has come to the knowledge of the Government of India that owing to permission unfortunately granted by the local authorities to certain contractors to remove stone for construction purposes on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, the extensive ruins of a city of high antiquity and historic interest comprising several temples covered by earth or forest, have been opened up, and very large quantities of stone removed, thereby causing an irreparable loss.

2. The rules of the Public Works Department Code (Chapters III, 74 and 75, and XI, 6) provide for the care and preservation of buildings of architectural and historical interest, but it should be in future distinctly understood that this term comprises ancient ruins of all kinds, and mounds known or likely to contain ruins, and that in all cases of doubt no steps whatever should be taken, otherwise than for their preservation, without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Department.

3. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council trusts that, in the future, effective measures will be taken to prevent the destruction of any ruin of interest, and to ensure that officers of the Government in all departments will act in the spirit of the preceding instructions, referring freely for information and advice to the Archaeological Department. His Excellency confidently reckons on the co-operation of the Local Governments and Administrations in this matter, and desires that the attention of officers charged with the construction of railways and other large works may be specially directed to the necessity for exercising the utmost care in enforcing observance of these instructions by their contractors and subordinates.

Order—dated 1st October 1886, No. 2569-W., Public Works.

Communicated to Superintending Engineers for information and guidance; also to the Consulting Engineer for Railways for special attention, with advertence to paragraph 3.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. O. HASTED,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To Superintending Engineers.
„ the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ the Consulting Architect to Government.
„ the Superintendent of Works, Tank Maintenance Scheme.
„ the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Engineer-in-Chief, Madras State Railway Surveys.

Order—dated 25th January 1888, Mis. No. 97, Public.

Communicated to the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.
Exd. A. Raitt.

C. O. 1939/88

Gob. of {1888} Madras.
PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 16th February 1888, No. 181.

Bk 749 28 5/3/88

FEBRUARY.

Archæology.

Passing orders on Director-General's letters in connection with Mr. Rea's report on his recent survey of Buddhist remains near Guntupalle, Godávári district.

16TH FEBRUARY 1888, No. 181, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D, C.I.E., Director-General, Archæological Survey of India, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Mathura, 18th January 1888, No. 76.

I have the honor to forward herewith Mr. Rea's report on his recent survey of Buddhist remains in the neighbourhood of Guntupalle, in the Godávári district. His survey of the caves has been complete, and he has discovered several that were previously unknown.

2. It is to be regretted that his partial excavation of one, of what appears to be, a most interesting group of *stupas*, was not carried further; but the obstructiveness of the local Zemindar prevented this, and Mr. Rea wished to avoid anything like collision with him. The universal strong belief prevalent over the Telugu districts, that it is only for treasure that such excavations are ever made, was doubtless the real cause of the opposition.

3. The danger now will be lest the Zemindar, since his attention has been directed to them, should at once attack these unique ancient monuments, and, as the Amarávati Zemindar did, destroy for ever the chances of obtaining the information from them that the survey is intended to elicit. I would therefore venture respectfully to press upon Government the great desirability of securing that they be not intermeddled with. This may probably be most readily attained through the early and judicious influence of the Collector. The Zemindar might be assured that, however strange it may seem to him, the mounds and their sculptures undisturbed are of more public value than treasure; that none is expected in them, but that if, by any chance, such should be found, it would be equitably dealt with by Government under the Treasure Trove Act; and that Government reserves the right of excavation.

4. It seems very desirable to circulate more widely in vernacular, through tahsildars and all village officers, the provisions of the Treasure Trove Act, asking them to make it generally known among the people. From information I receive from all quarters, it does not seem to be at all well known, and the result is that many important and valuable coins go to the silversmith or saukar rather than to Government. The circulars of Government of India, Public Works Department, No. 4 of 8th September 1886 and No. 5 of 14th December 1887, also require a wide circulation among all Government officers.

5. Mr. Rea's report is full of interest, but the full details of his survey can only be given with the drawings he has made, when they are ready for publication.

ENCLOSURE.

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Archæological Surveyor, to the Director-General, Archæological Survey of India, dated Camp, Jilligerigudem, 4th January 1888, No. 5.

With reference to your instructions and paragraph 4 of my tour programme printed in G.O., No. 1650, Public, dated 12th December 1887, I have the honor to state that I arrived here on the 27th ultimo and began the survey of the rock-cut *viharas*, and also to examine and partially excavate the "*stupa* and one of the *dagobas*" mentioned in paragraph 4 of Mr. Sewell's letter in G.O., No. 220, Public, dated 11th February 1887.*

* NOTE.—The existence of the remains would seem to have been first discovered by Dr. W. King, who mentioned them as being near the villages of Nagalapalle and Jilligerigudem. The last named is the nearer, and in describing the place it seems more applicable to use it than Guntupalle, which is further off than any.

2. The *stupas* or *dagobas* are over a dozen in number, and from a close examination of the whole of them, I am convinced they are all of one class. At present, they are simply low, irregular mounds of earth, mixed with bricks, rough stone blocks, with a few circular cut stones lying at different places on their surface, and the whole thickly overgrown with low trees, shrubs and brushwood. I selected one mound for excavation. It measured about 50 feet in diameter and 12 or 15 feet in height. I sunk a shaft down the centre and found, close to the surface, an upright pillar or *stambha*, 3 feet long, with square base, octagonal shaft, and a small circular pin on the top, which may possibly have been used for fixing a sacred umbrella on religious festival occasions. Digging down for 8 feet on one side of the well, I came to the exterior wall of a circular-built *dagoba*. The segment so exposed stood directly under the surface *stambha*, and on the north side of the mound. On exposing it, I carried the digging around the curved stonework so as to lay bare the *stupa*. I found it to be a dome, almost hemispherical in outline, about 25 feet in diameter and built in closely-jointed, horizontal courses of masonry; the whole bore traces of having been whitewashed. The upper portion of the dome was ruined, and I found the courses, or cut stones, lying some inside and others outside the *stupa* itself. This dome stands on a circular, built basement about 7 feet high, with a projection of 12 inches all round. A channel is cut on the upper surface of the projection. On exposing the *stupa*, I dug a well down its centre to ascertain if it contained any relic casket, but although I carried this down as far as the foundation, I found none. The interior was filled with earth, bricks, rough stone blocks, cut stones fallen from the roof, and bits of ancient, coarse pottery. The whole was intergrown with tree roots, so none of the earthenware was complete.

Around the exterior I dug a trench, and in doing so, discovered some interesting white marble sculptures. They are much weatherworn, and their archaic style leads me to think that they are as ancient, if not anterior to those discovered at Jaggayyapeta by Dr. Burgess. One is the top of a panel 13½ inches broad, with 2½ inches flat surface along the top. Traces of what seem to have been capitals of pilasters appear on each side. The central recessed panel is 9½ inches broad and 1 inch deep. In this is the head of a figure in bas-relief, with halo around it, and a garland (?) over on each side. The sculpture is in two pieces, and the lower portion of the panel is wanting.

Another is a portion of a slab 21 inches long and 8 inches broad. On it is a standing Buddha, 16 inches high, with his left arm bent, over which hangs the flowing drapery of his robe. The features are almost obliterated through long exposure to the weather. The image is archaic in character, yet has the graceful pose so characteristic of Buddhist sculpture. Not far from this last, another was unearthed, which fits on to the image already mentioned. It is the upper, right hand portion of the panelled slab on which the Buddha had been sculptured in bas-relief. It measures 12 inches long, 6 inches broad, and 2¼ inches thick. In the panel is the left side of the halo which encircled the head, and over is the half of a double moulded segmental arch with *chakra* and radiating lines introduced as ornaments on the flat; while the apex or extrados is sculptured with a row of *trisulas*. On the right side of the panel is the upper part of a pilaster with moulded capital supporting a recumbent lion (?) over which stands a small image.

In the trench excavated around the east exterior side of the *stupa*, a small cylindrical stone casket was found. It is 4½ inches high, 4¼ inches in exterior diameter, with a small hollow cut in it 2¼ inches in diameter and 1½ inches deep. Some mortar adheres to the lower portion of the stone, appearing as if it had been fixed upright in some masonry. I believe this to be the relic casket for which we were fruitlessly digging the interior of the *stupa*. Its position where found may be explained if it had been placed in the Tee on the summit of the *dagoba*, which either was, or was intended to represent a relic casket (Fergusson's *Ind. and East. Arch.* 64). When the upper portion of the dome was destroyed it would fall down along with the roof stones, several of which were lying near it. All the fallen dressed stones which formed the upper portion of the dome have been carefully laid to one side, so that, if need be, the ruined portion could easily be restored at very little expense. The lower portions and basement are very solidly built and in perfect preservation. I dug a trench at right angles to the building, but found no traces of a surrounding rail. It is quite possible it may exist, however, at other places in the circumference.

3. On a careful examination and measurement of the positions of the stone pillars, at another part of the ruins, mentioned in paragraph 4 of Mr. Sewell's letter, I ascertained them to be the remains of an extensive pillared mandapa which had once stood there. Several piers stand erect, and the broken bases of others still remain. The former places of the fallen pillars can be easily traced from the position in which they now lie. I cleared the earth around them and found all the fallen stones were piers, without any trace of built walls.

4. The Jilligerigudem rock-cut caves and *viharas* have been carefully drawn to a large scale, and I find that the larger entrance doors to the principal *vihara*, each and all, present the same peculiarity already noticed in the small circular cave, that is, the door jambs slope outwards or "batter" from the floor up to the springing line of the arch, so that the width of the door at the sill is several inches less than that at the bottom of the arch. This important point has been omitted and there are several other mistakes in the drawings already published. In addition to the

rock cuttings noted by Mr. Sewell in his letter to Government, there are other two groups of caves at some considerable distance up the hill. They are much weatherworn, the doors and windows have arched heads and they have the wooden features repeated in stone similar to those of the principal *vihara*.

5. The discovery of the marbles is important, as it proves that such sculptures do exist here and probably in considerable number. The work of excavation, however, is one of extreme difficulty and cannot be entrusted even to the most intelligent of my staff, but requires my almost constant personal supervision. In addition to the mound covering the *stupas*, they themselves apparently stand about 8 or 10 feet below the present ground surface. While examining another *stupa* I picked up three pieces of white marble on the surface of the ground, and I doubt not that a regular excavation would bring others to light. I also found several slabs of a white slate, which I think must have been used for paving: these latter I have left in one of the rooms of the *vihara*. The work to be properly carried out would require a special grant of Rs. 400 or 500. Not only would the thick brushwood and trees which cover and are destroying the mounds have to be removed, but the earth itself is so mixed with boulders and stones that the work is one of considerable difficulty. With the time at my disposal I was only able partly to excavate one, and that not even down to the base line all round. I would suggest that a special grant be asked for the work of excavation next season, and, to facilitate the operation, the Collector might be authorized to have the jungle covering the *stupas* cut down beforehand. It would be a pity were such a fine group to remain unexplored. At no other known place in the south are such a number collected together, and these if uncovered might rival some of the groups in the north.

6. From the extensive nature of the rock-cut *viharas* and the large number of *stupas*, the place must have been one of considerable religious importance in the early centuries of the Christian era. Being so, it could hardly have escaped the attention of the Chinese pilgrims who visited India. It may therefore be interesting to see whether its situation might not correspond with any of the monasteries described by them, and whose supposed site is at present considered by scholars as doubtfully fixed.

7. A curious matter in regard to these *stupas* is that they are without doubt intended to stand clear of any artificial covering. The question therefore arises.—Why are they hidden in mounds which have not been formed naturally, but are artificially made up of packed stones and earth? I can only account for it on the supposition that the Buddhists on being driven from the place raised these mounds over their shrines to protect them from the iconoclasts of the time, doubtless thinking that at some time or other they might return thither. The pillared mandapa before referred to shows that the fallen pillars have been wilfully thrown down, probably by fire. Many of the stumps remain, while the shafts lie broken alongside.

8. On coming here, I proceeded at once with the excavations above described and the cutting down of some jungle bushes from the front of the *viharas*, so that photos of each might be taken. On the morning of the 30th ultimo I was told by the village munsif that the place was not Government property, but belonged to Narayana Deva Raja, the Zemindar of Guntupalle, who had said that if I found and took away anything, I did so without his consent. The place not being Government property had not been mentioned by Mr. Sewell. I at once requested an interview and explained the object of the work and asked if he had any objection to its being carried on. He then stated that he had none, and that the work might proceed. I learned, however, as the excavation of the *stupa* brought to light its true character and resemblance to the cave "linga," that efforts were being made to prevent the coolies working for me. He also endeavoured to get possession of the marble images excavated, stating that I might take photos or drawings of them, but that the objects themselves were to be kept by him. As an excuse he stated that, had I found a golden image, it would be taken also. The provisions of the *Treasure Trove Act* seem to be unknown in this remote place. As the marbles could be of no possible interest or value to him, and as his objection was dictated by a spirit of obstructiveness, I declined to leave them, as I have no doubt that had I done so they would certainly have been destroyed. I stated however, that I would deposit them with the Tahsildar of Ellore, with whom they could remain till the orders of Government were received as to their disposal. He then informed my clerk that he had removed any objection to my taking them. I would request therefore that they may be sent to the Government Museum in Madras. The Telugu name for white marble and for the white slate slabs found at these places is "Nappa raya," and I was told each does equally well for burning into chunam. Had I left the slabs here, it is almost a certainty that they would have gone in the same or a similar way, as many of the Amaravati sculptures did.

9. In the progress of the work I received not the slightest assistance from the Zemindar; and if work is to be further carried out at this place, it might be well to count on this and make provision against such ignorant obstruction beforehand. The strong belief that such excavations are only undertaken in search of treasure is the source of this obstructiveness. Had it not been for Tumbana Subbayya, the village munsif, who, though an unpaid servant of Government, did everything he possibly could in the providing of supplies and coolies, I should have been able to do little or no excavation here at all.

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D., C.I.E., Director-General, Archaeological Survey of India, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Mathura, N.W.P., 23rd January 1888, No. 101.

In continuation of my letter, No. 76, of 18th instant, I have the honor to add that Mr. Rea has since suggested to me that, were a grant of about Rs. 400 allowed him for excavations at Guntupalle and arrangements made by the Collector of Godáviri with the Zemindar to prevent interference, he thinks he would be able to return to the place this season, after finishing at Amaravati, and carry out the excavations that seem so promising of interesting results.

2. I would venture to commend this proposal cordially to the favorable consideration of Government at as early a date as convenient. Mr. Rea's presence is indispensable whenever the excavations are made, and if they can be completed this season, it would save the time and expense of a future visit to the locality. Any objects discovered should be transmitted to the Government Central Museum at Madras.

ORDER—dated 16th February 1888, No. 181, Public.

Recorded.

2. The Government note with regret that Mr. Rea's excavations were interrupted through the obstructive action of the Zemindar of Guntupalle. The Collector will endeavour to remove the Zemindar's objections and prevent any local interference with antiquarian remains, as suggested by Dr. Burgess in paragraph 3 of his letter. He will at the same time convey the commendation of Government to the village munsif referred to at the close of Mr. Rea's report.

2. All Collectors will be directed to re-publish Act VI of 1878, and the rules framed under it (G.O., 7th September 1878, No. 1350,) in their District Gazettes. Dr. Burgess will have learned from G.O., 25th January 1888, No. 97, that attention has been called in the Public Works Department to the Government of India circulars referred to in paragraph 4 of his letter. This order will now be printed and communicated to all Collectors.

3. Dr. Burgess' second letter read above will be considered in the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.

- „ the Collector of Godáviri.
- „ all other Collectors.
- „ the Public Works Department.
- „ the Revenue Department.
- „ A. Rea, Esq., First Assistant, Archaeological Survey.
- „ R. Sewell, Esq., M.C.S.

Copy to the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, London.
 „ „ President, Asiatic Society of Bengal.
 „ „ Secretary, Madras Literary and Scientific Society.

APPENDIX.

G.O., dated 25th January 1888, Mis. No. 97, Public.

Read—the following G.O., dated 7th January 1888, No. 59 W., Public Works.

Read—the following Circular from G. H. D. WALKER, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (General), to the Government of Madras, &c., &c., dated Fort William, 14th December 1887, No. 5, Public Works :—

[Objects of archaeological or historical interest not to be disturbed without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Survey Department.]

In forwarding for the information of the Government of Madras the accompanying copy of a letter received from the Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India, I am directed to invite attention to

Circular No. 4, dated the 8th September 1886, and to request that orders may be issued enjoining the careful observance of the instructions conveyed therein.

2. I am further to request that, so far as possible, measures may be taken to prevent any object of archaeological or historical interest being excavated or otherwise disturbed in the manner referred to in Dr. Burgess' letter, without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Survey Department; and that special attention of the local authorities may be called to the cases quoted, in which a neglect of this precaution has apparently led to the loss of much information of great archaeological interest.

ENCLOSURE.

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D., C.I.E., Director-General, Archaeological Survey of India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, dated Simla, 17th October 1887, No. 620.

*From a paper that has recently appeared in the Bengal Asiatic Society's Journal, I observe that an ancient Buddhist stupa at Mordhvaj, 27 miles north-east of Bijnaur, mentioned by General Cunningham (Archaeological Survey Reports, Volume II, pages 237-38), must have been recently excavated without any reference to this department, and other remains have been similarly excavated in Ghazipur, at Bhitari and elsewhere.

2. However carefully the contents of relics found in ancient mounds may in some cases be collected and forwarded to the Provincial Museums by the excavators, the excavations themselves always destroy those indications of purpose and arrangement that the specialist alone would notice, and which are of as much interest as the objects found. It is most desirable that every detail that can be secured by the best modes of excavation, and which only the expert would know where and how to look for, should be acquired. No one can readily conceive what must have been lost by the unscientific excavation and destruction of the many Buddhist remains that might be named. So many have already been utterly destroyed, in search only for their contents, and so few of them are now left, that it seems most desirable they should be strictly guarded from further destruction, or excavated only under the most experienced direction, not so much for the "finds" they may contain, as to discover, if possible, their original characters and the arrangements connected with their purposes and uses. This object seems to have been lost sight of in Upper India, and the excavations made of late years seem to have been conducted with but little scientific care. Archaeological excavation is now a very different work from what it was half a century ago, and requires knowledge and experience. A distinct arrangement should also be made for the transmission to the public museums of every object found in any excavation.

No. 2476-G.

Copy forwarded to the Revenue and Agricultural Department for information.
Original papers returned.

(By order.)

(Signed) G. H. D. WALKER,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Order—dated 7th January 1888, No. 59 W., Public Works.

Communicated to officers of the Public Works Department, for information and guidance, in continuation of G.O., No. 2569 W., dated 1st October 1886.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. L. C. BADDELEY, Capt., R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ Superintending Engineers.
„ the Consulting Architect to Government.
„ the Engineer-in-Chief, Madras State Railway Surveys.
„ the Public Department, with copy of G.O., No. 2569 W., dated 1st October 1886,
and two spare copies of Government of India Circular, No. 5, P.W.

G.O., dated 1st October 1886, No. 2569 W., Public Works.

Read—the following Circular from A. B. SAMPSON, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (General), to the Government of Madras, &c., &c., dated Simla, 8th September 1886, No. 4, Public Works:—

It has come to the knowledge of the Government of India that owing to permission unfortunately granted by the local authorities to certain contractors to remove stone for construction purposes on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, the extensive ruins of a city of high antiquity and historic interest comprising several temples covered by earth or forest, have been opened up, and very large quantities of stone removed, thereby causing an irreparable loss.

2. The rules of the Public Works Department Code (Chapters III, 74 and 75, and XI, 6) provide for the care and preservation of buildings of architectural and historical interest, but it should be in future distinctly understood that this term comprises ancient ruins of all kinds, and mounds known or likely to contain ruins, and that in all cases of doubt no steps whatever should be taken, otherwise than for their preservation, without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Department.

3. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council trusts that, in the future, effective measures will be taken to prevent the destruction of any ruin of interest, and to ensure that officers of the Government in all departments will act in the spirit of the preceding instructions, referring freely for information and advice to the Archaeological Department. His Excellency confidently reckons on the co-operation of the Local Governments and Administrations in this matter, and desires that the attention of officers charged with the construction of railways and other large works may be specially directed to the necessity for exercising the utmost care in enforcing observance of these instructions by their contractors and subordinates.

Order—dated 1st October 1886, No. 2569-W., Public Works.

Communicated to Superintending Engineers for information and guidance; also to the Consulting Engineer for Railways for special attention, with advertence to paragraph 3.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. O. HASTED,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To Superintending Engineers.
„ the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ the Consulting Architect to Government.
„ the Superintendent of Works, Tank Maintenance Scheme.
„ the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Engineer-in-Chief, Madras State Railway Surveys.

Order—dated 25th January 1888, Mis. No. 97, Public.

Communicated to the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.

Exd. A. Raith.

Order thereon No. 749 W of
5 March 1888.

Communicated to the
Suptg. Engr. I Circle for in-
formation.

2. As regards para 3 of the
order in the Public Deptt. No.
181, of 16 Feb 1888, it is ob-
served that in his letter No.
580 of 11 October 1887 the Director
General recommended that
a sum of Rs. 400 or Rs. 500
should be placed at Mr. Rea's
disposal "for excavations this
season during his tour in
the Krishna and Godavari
Districts". He proposed further
that when Mr. Rea began to
spend it, "he should send
in an estimate stating whether
it would be sufficient, or what
further sum would be required".

3. A sum of Rs. 500 was
thereupon allotted to Mr. Rea,
in G.O. No. 3286. W of 2 Dec 1887,
and he was informed that on
receipt of an estimate showing
the additional amount required,
the question of supplementing
the grant would be considered.

4. The estimate has not yet
been submitted in compliance
with these orders.

5. As, however, it now ap-
pears that a further sum of
Rs. 400 can be utilised for ex-
cavations at Guntupalle, the
amount is allotted from the
current year's budget provision
for conservation of ancient
monuments.

(Sd) H.R.M.

To S.E. I Circle
Engr. Mr. A.
Public Deptt.

G.O. of 1888 Madras.

PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 16th February 1888, No. 181.

13/2 749 W 5-3-88-

FEBRUARY.

Archæology.

Passing orders on Director-General's letters in
connection with Mr. Rea's report on his recent
survey of Buddhist remains near Guntupalle,
Godavari district.

The prescribed quinquennial

20.2.88
29/2
20/2/88
20/2/88