

Govt. of {1891} Madras.
PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 9th Jan. 1891, No. 20.

JANUARY.

Archæology.

Passing orders on letters from the Archæological Surveyor referring to annual reports on the conservation of ancient buildings.

No. 244 Wd/26th Jan 1891

Communicated to Suptg

Engineers in continuation of

G.O. no: 186 Wd/20th January/91

2. The Suptg: Engrs. IV circle
will submit a report on the
subject of para 3 of the Govt.
Order.

W J. P.

W

Suptg: Engrs.

C. A. to Govt.

(b) SALEM.

No orders of Government required, as the repairs to the various buildings mentioned in the Collector's report are to be carried out locally.

(c) VIZAGAPATAM.

Present number.		
(4)	Item No. 14. The Principal Assistant Collector reports that the temple is in a state of ruin and requires repairs at a cost of Rs. 200.	This is a Chola temple at Maduturru in the Sarvasiddhi taluk. In the list of monuments, it is stated that no expenditure is necessary. It would lead to a very large outlay if all such temples were to be repaired. It is usually sufficient to prevent further decay as much as possible, and this can be done at the cost of a few rupees, according to the amount of vegetation to be removed.
(5)	Item No. 17. This is in charge of the Maharaja of Jeypore. It requires repairs to the extent of Rs. 28 for rebuilding the compound wall, which is now in ruins, with a door and door-frame. The Special Assistant Agent reports that the monument consists merely of an old temple and that it is devoid of inscriptions and is of no architectural importance. He recommends that it be removed from the list of ancient monuments. His account does not correspond with the remarks in the list.	This is described in the list of monuments as "a rock-cut work and inscription." It is also stated that "the Maharaja of Jeypore, in whose estate the monument is situate, undertakes to keep it in repair."

(d) MADURA.

Present number.	Taluk.	Village.	Name of monument, &c.	Reference to Volume I of the Archaeological Survey of Southern India. List of Antiquities.	Reason why conservation is necessary.	Collector's suggestion for repair.	Remarks of the First Assistant.
(6)	Tirumangalam.	Vikramangalam.	All the inscriptions at the temple.	296 and 11,273.	Historical, Pandiyan dynasty. These are very valuable as they give dates.	The temple is also a very beautiful monument. There is no idol inside. The outside walls of the temple are in a bad condition. There are inscriptions on the inside and outside of the compound walls. They are not legible. In the superstructure over the yard stones are placed with intervening spaces. The well attached to this requires repairs. It is desirable that the monument and the well attached to it should be repaired. It is also suggested that the stones of the superstructure over the yard may be removed and windows fixed in the walls to give free ventilation. Flooring is also necessary. As the monument is very valuable, these repairs may be carried out at the cost of the Government. If required it will prove a convenient accommodation to the general public and to the travellers who feel the want of accommodation.	The repairs to the walls might be simply such as will prevent their being further ruined. There should be no rebuilding. If the well is to be used by travellers to the place, it is possible that it may also be, if it is not now, used by the villagers. A portion of the expense might thus be borne from local funds. I think the fixing of windows undesirable, as they will alter the character, and be out of keeping with the design of the building. It would perhaps be sufficient to simply repair the old flooring without going to the expense of providing new material.

N.B.—The repairs have to be undertaken by Government.

(e) KISTNA.

Present number.	Taluk and village.	Reference to Volume I of the Archaeological Survey of Southern India. List of Antiquities.	Description of the monument.	Remarks of the Collector.	Remarks of the First Assistant.
(7)	Guntur Taluk, Koritepadu.	No. 9, page 75.	Inscription on pillar lying near the footsteps leading to the temple.	The Revenue Inspector reports that the stone is lying flat on the ground. The estimated cost of setting it upon a pedestal is Rs. 5.	There seems no necessity for a pedestal. A few coolies could set it upright in a few hours, packing the base with stones to prevent it falling.
(8)	Guntur Taluk, Undavalle.	No. 28, page 76.	The four-storeyed rock-cut cave temple.	Repairs costing about Rs. 15 are necessary. The Sub-Collector has been requested to submit a detailed estimate for the same.	At my late visit to this cave, I did not observe any parts of the excavation itself requiring repair. (G.O., 709 of 14th July 1888). But if there is any vegetation growing on the mound in front of the large cave or on any of the lesser rock-caves and sculptures, it might be cut down.
(9)	Nuzvid division, Medur.	No. 8, page 51.	Stone in the street recording a battle that took place between Kistna Devaraja and some one else (A.D. 1514).	The Deputy Tahsildar reports that repairs at a cost of Rs. 10-4-0 are necessary. He has been directed through the Head Assistant Collector to submit detailed estimate as soon as practicable.	I do not see that repairs can be necessary for an inscribed stone. It would be sufficient to treat it as noted in the afore-mentioned inscription (No. 7).
(10)	Nuzvid division, Purushottapatnam.	No. 12, page 51.	Inscription on a stone in a tank east of the village.	The Deputy Tahsildar reports that repairs costing Rs. 25 are necessary for setting up the inscription on a pedestal. He further states that the villagers once volunteered to get this monument repaired at their own cost. He has now been called upon to explain why this has not yet been done.	This sum for a pedestal is unnecessary. See above remarks (No. 7).

5. In addition to those reported by Collectors, I would suggest the great desirability of stopping the ruin going on at the interesting and ancient site of Allagarkoil near Madura. The place is referred to in my report, No. 285, of the 3rd instant (paragraphs 6 to 12). Great ruin has already been done by the large amount of luxuriant vegetation which covers the buildings. Beyond cutting down the growths from all these, particularly from the palace, nothing further can be done. But if this is carried out thoroughly, the process of decay will be stopped. The two reservoirs on the hills should also be included. It would be desirable to have this work proceeded with without delay. Perhaps the Public Works officers might visit the place, and see whether the overhanging and fractured portions of the domes of the palace could not be propped up at a small cost, to prevent their falling. Rupees 100 to 150 would go a long way to clearing out the most of the brushwood. It is unlikely that scaffolding would be required, as the coolies could reach the upper parts of the buildings by means of bamboo ladders. Perhaps some part of the outlay could be recovered from the sale of firewood.

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Archæological Surveyor to Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 9th June 1890, No. 322-C.

In continuation of my letter, No. 302-C, of the 21st ultimo, I have the honor to state that a report* on the conservation of ancient buildings in his district has since been received from the Collector of North Arcot.

* No. 2556-R. of 5th June 1890.

2. Items Nos. 1 and 2 are repairs to the rock-cut cave at Karapattu, and the pointed rock at Malayampattu, both in the Gudiyátam taluk. The estimates, respectively, amount to Rs. 230 and Rs. 310. There seems no necessity for spending such large sums on rock excavations, which can only result in repairs or additions which would modernize them and alter their character. A matter of Rs. 10 might be spent in freeing them from dangerous vegetation. In the list of monuments for conservation, it is mentioned that the village headmen are to be placed in special charge.

3. Item No. 3 is the fort and temple, Vellore. The Collector states that "either very extensive repairs should be made to No. 3 or none at all." It is suggested that the buildings should be inspected by the Executive Engineer. When last visited by the Survey, the temple and fort were in perfect preservation, and well looked after by the Public Works Department. There seems, therefore, no necessity for any immediate expenditure.

4. Item No. 4 is the "Delhi gate" at Arcot. Regarding this historical monument, the Collector remarks as follows:—

"As to No. 4, I think that, considering its historical associations, the building should be thoroughly cleaned and repaired, fitted with glass windows and venetians, and a pensioned sepoy on Rs. 3 per mensem appointed to watch it. It might be used as a rest-house by the Department of Public Works, who should look after it. In its present condition, it is a disgrace to the country which owes so much to Clive. Every unmannerly school boy writes his name and scribbles indecent pictures on the walls, while at night it is the common place of assignation in Arcot. Clive's watch fort should not be allowed to degenerate into a brothel."

I entirely agree with the Collector in thinking that something should be done to preserve this interesting monument, and his suggestions, if carried out, are well fitted to serve the purpose. I see no necessity, however, for glass windows, for, the building being frequented in the manner depicted, the windows would certainly be all broken in a very short time. If used as a rest-house and looked after by the Department of Public Works, wooden windows would be sufficient. If not used for such a purpose, it would be sufficient to fix iron bars in the accessible windows and secure doors in the entrances, with a sepoy, as suggested, to look after the building. The Department of Public Works might prepare estimates.

5. Items Nos. 5 and 6 are the rock-cut caves at Mamandur, near Conjeeveram; and the rock-cut sculptures and caves of Pancha Pandava Malai, near Arcot.

(a) *In re* the first of these, it is stated in the list of monuments for conservation, that "The front of these four caves should be fenced with iron railing, cost Rs. 500." It is noted also, that they are used as cattle-pens, and that the munsifs of Mamandur and Narasapalaiyam might be instructed to prevent persons lighting fires in the caves. The interesting Pallava inscriptions have been greatly damaged by the latter objectionable practice. If the munsifs could prevent this, there would be no need for any outlay. Even if railings have to be provided, the estimate might, I think, be greatly reduced. Two of the caves stand well up the hill side, are thus in no danger, and require no railing. The other two are at the base of the hill, and thus liable to be damaged, but a railing could be put up in front of the two, at a fraction of the expense, and would serve the purpose equally well, by using casuarina, palmyra, or other palm logs from the neighbourhood. The cost would thus be that of the carpenter for a few days, and the wood. All that is required

is to show the villagers that the caves are under the protection of the State, and when this is done, they would soon desist from frequenting them. Rs. 20 would be sufficient.

(b) In the list of monuments, Rs. 100 are estimated as the cost of an iron railing for the front of the rock-cut sculptures caves at Pancha Pandava Malai. When last visited by the Survey, these remains seemed in no danger. Bushes were growing close up to, but not injuring them in any way. A wooden railing not exceeding Rs. 10 would perfectly protect them.

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Archæological Surveyor to Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 30th June 1890, No. 350-C.

In continuation of my letter, No. 322-C, of the 9th June 1890, I have the honor to state that I have since received a list of monuments requiring repair in the Cuddapah district. It is as follows:—

List of ancient Monuments requiring repairs in the Cuddapah district for the calendar year 1889.

Serial No.	Taluk.	Village.	Name of monument.	Reference to Volume I of the Archæological Survey of Southern India or "List of Antiquities," Sewell.	Reason why conservation is necessary.	Classification.	Suggestion for conservation in case of monuments in charge of Government.	Remarks.
1	Badvel ..	Palugurallapalle.	Inscriptions Nos. 1 and 3.	126	Historical. Vijayanagar and a local dynasty.	II-(a)	The inscriptions are lying exposed to weather, and can be removed at a trifling cost to the village choultry or other safe place.	
2	Siddhavatam.	Ganga Peruru.	Inscription on a stone in a field near a tank south-east of the village.	129	Historical. Vijayanagar dynasty.	Do.	The stone lies exposed, and should be removed and placed in charge of village headman at the village choultry at a trifling cost.	
3	Do. ..	Siddhavatam.	Inscription on the rampart at the east gate of the Fort.	130	Historical.	Do.	Might be roofed over and protected from weather at a cost of Rs. 10.	The Collector's suggestions may be carried out.—A.R.

2. In order that all the lists from the different districts may be forwarded to Government simultaneously, I would suggest that a date be fixed before which they should be sent to this office. It might be most convenient to arrange the date before the 1st of April, so that the total of the sums annually required for conservation could be passed by Government and included in their budget.

ORDER—dated 9th January 1891, No. 20, Public.

In separate orders the Archæological Surveyor has been instructed to prepare a revised standard list of monuments.

If the remains at Allargarkovil find a place in this list, the Government will be prepared to sanction a grant for the removal of encroaching vegetation.

2. With regard to other items mentioned in the letters read above, it does not seem probable that Mr. Rea will recommend their inclusion in the list, and failing that no allotments will be provided for them.

3. A report from the Public Works Department on the subject of the "Delhi Gate" at Arcot is requested. The Government desires that the building should, if possible, be used as a rest-house, and will sanction the employment of a pensioned sepoy as watchman if that arrangement can be made.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Archaeological Surveyor.
,, Public Works Department.
Copy to Collector, North Arcot.

No 244w of 26th Jan 1891

Communicated to Suply
Engrs in continuation of G.O. No

186 w of 20th Jan 1891

2 - The Suply Engrs IV circle
will submit a report on the
Subject of para 3 of the Govt order

Signed M. S.
23-1-91

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 9th Jan. 1891, No. 20.

JANUARY.

Archæology.

Passing orders on letters from the Archæological Surveyor referring to annual reports on the conservation of ancient buildings.

9TH JANUARY 1891; No. 20, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., First Assistant, Archæological Survey, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Bangalore, 21st May 1890, No. 302-C.

Collector of Bellary, No. 12, dated 10th January 1890.
" of Tanjore, " 325, " 20th " "
" of Tinnevely, No. 72, dated 21st January 1890.
" of Trichinopoly, post-card, No. 68-18, dated 22nd January 1890.
" of Salem, No. 179-E., dated 29th January 1890.
" of Chingleput, post-card, No. 115-L., dated 29th January 1890.
" of Vizagapatam, No. 442, dated 10th Feb. 1890.
" of Madurai, " 341, " 10th " "
" of Nellore, post-card, No. 328-Eng., dated 28th February 1890.
" of South Canara, No. 1029, dated 18th March 1890.
" of Malabar, No. 1098, dated 19th March 1890.
" of Kistna, " 2508, " 2nd April " "

With reference to the marginally-noted annual reports from Collectors on the conservation of ancient buildings in their districts, sent in accordance with Board's Proceedings, No. 304, dated 26th March 1888, I have the honor to report as follows :—

2. The following districts have sent Nil returns :—

Bellary, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Chingleput, Nellore, South Canara and Malabar.

3. No returns have as yet been received from the undernoted districts :—

Ganjam, Godáviri, Kurnool, Anantapur, Cuddapah, North Arcot, South Arcot, Coimbatore and Nilgiri Hills.

4. Those cases which require the orders of Government are extracted from the reports as follows :—

(a) TINNEVELLY.

Present number.	Number in Printed list.	Taluk and village.	Name of Monument or Inscription.	Estimated cost.	Remarks (of Collector).	Remarks of the First Assistant, Archæological Survey.
(1)	14	Tinnevely taluk, Ukki-rankotei.	Inscription on a rock called Anai-mottai-parai.	Rs. 35	A railing is required (vide Column 8 of printed list, page 79). This apparently will have to be done at State expense—no funds are available.	
(2)	22	Patti Do.	Inscription No. 1 of A.D. 1535 regarding Vizianagar Dynasty.	50	Requires clearing and whitewashing, which will have to be done at State expense—no funds are available.	This seems a large sum for the purpose; and it is undesirable that the inscription should be whitewashed. A few rupees might suffice for the clearing. These remarks also apply to the "clearing and whitewashing" of inscriptions in items Nos. 20 and 21 of Collector's report, which the temple authorities have been requested to carry out at a cost of Rs. 25 and 150.
(3)	..	Edirkottai, Srivilliputur taluk.	Inscription on a rock forming a side of a fountain (page 304 of Sewell's Antiquities).	5	The inscription is barely exposed and is getting worn by the action of the weather which causes disintegration of the rock. The inscription is illegible—it will be sufficient to cover it with an iron plate and nails on 4 sides at a cost of 5 rupees.	Instead of covering and hiding it with an iron plate, it would serve the purpose if it were given a coat of silica, or perhaps a soaking of mineral oil at intervals.

(b) SALEM.

No orders of Government required, as the repairs to the various buildings mentioned in the Collector's report are to be carried out locally.

(c) VIZAGAPATAM.

Present number.		
(4)	Item No. 14. The Principal Assistant Collector reports that the temple is in a state of ruin and requires repairs at a cost of Rs. 200.	This is a Chola temple at Maduturru in the Sarvasiddhi taluk. In the list of monuments, it is stated that no expenditure is necessary. It would lead to a very large outlay if all such temples were to be repaired. It is usually sufficient to prevent further decay as much as possible, and this can be done at the cost of a few rupees, according to the amount of vegetation to be removed.
(5)	Item No. 17. This is in charge of the Maharaja of Jeypore. It requires repairs to the extent of Rs. 28 for rebuilding the compound wall, which is now in ruins, with a door and door-frame. The Special Assistant Agent reports that the monument consists merely of an old temple and that it is devoid of inscriptions and is of no architectural importance. He recommends that it be removed from the list of ancient monuments. His account does not correspond with the remarks in the list.	This is described in the list of monuments as "a rock-cut work and inscription." It is also stated that "the Maharaja of Jeypore, in whose estate the monument is situate, undertakes to keep it in repair."

(d) MADURA.

Present number.	Taluk.	Village.	Name of monument, &c.	Reference to Volume I of the Archaeological Survey of Southern India. List of Antiquities.	Reason why conservation is necessary.	Collector's suggestion for repair.	Remarks of the First Assistant.
(6)	Tirumangalam.	Vikramangalam.	All the inscriptions at the temple.	296 and 11,273.	Historical, Pandiyan dynasty. These are very valuable as they give dates.	The temple is also a very beautiful monument. There is no idol inside. The outside walls of the temple are in a bad condition. There are inscriptions on the inside and outside of the compound walls. They are not legible. In the superstructure over the yard stones are placed with intervening spaces. The well attached to this requires repairs. It is desirable that the monument and the well attached to it should be repaired. It is also suggested that the stones of the superstructure over the yard may be removed and windows fixed in the walls to give free ventilation. Flooring is also necessary. As the monument is very valuable, these repairs may be carried out at the cost of the Government. If required it will prove a convenient accommodation to the general public and to the travellers who feel the want of accommodation.	The repairs to the walls might be simply such as will prevent their being further ruined. There should be no rebuilding. If the well is to be used by travellers to the place, it is possible that it may also be, if it is not now, used by the villagers. A portion of the expense might thus be borne from local funds. I think the fixing of windows undesirable, as they will alter the character, and be out of keeping with the design of the building. It would perhaps be sufficient to simply repair the old flooring without going to the expense of providing new material.
N.B.—The repairs have to be undertaken by Government.							

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Present number.	Taluk and village.	Reference to Volume I of the Archaeological Survey of Southern India. List of Antiquities.	Description of the monument.	Remarks of the Collector.	Remarks of the First Assistant.
(7)	Guntur Taluk, Koritepadu.	No. 9, page 75.	Inscription on pillar lying near the footsteps leading to the temple.	The Revenue Inspector reports that the stone is lying flat on the ground. The estimated cost of setting it upon a pedestal is Rs. 5.	There seems no necessity for a pedestal. A few coolies could set it upright in a few hours, packing the base with stones to prevent it falling.
(8)	Guntur Taluk, Undavalle.	No. 28, page 76.	The four-storeyed rock-cut cave temple.	Repairs costing about Rs. 15 are necessary. The Sub-Collector has been requested to submit a detailed estimate for the same.	At my late visit to this cave, I did not observe any parts of the excavation itself requiring repair. (G.O., 709 of 14th July 1888). But if there is any vegetation growing on the mound in front of the large cave or on any of the lesser rock-caves and sculptures, it might be cut down.
(9)	Nuzvid division, Medur.	No. 8, page 51.	Stone in the street recording a battle that took place between Kistna Devaraja and some one else (A.D. 1514).	The Deputy Tahsildar reports that repairs at a cost of Rs. 10-4-0 are necessary. He has been directed through the Head Assistant Collector to submit detailed estimate as soon as practicable.	I do not see that repairs can be necessary for an inscribed stone. It would be sufficient to treat it as noted in the afore-mentioned inscription (No. 7).
(10)	Nuzvid division, Purushottapattanam.	No. 12, page 51.	Inscription on a stone in a tank east of the village.	The Deputy Tahsildar reports that repairs costing Rs. 25 are necessary for setting up the inscription on a pedestal. He further states that the villagers once volunteered to get this monument repaired at their own cost. He has now been called upon to explain why this has not yet been done.	This sum for a pedestal is unnecessary. See above remarks (No. 7).

5. In addition to those reported by Collectors, I would suggest the great desirability of stopping the ruin going on at the interesting and ancient site of Allagarkoil near Madura. The place is referred to in my report, No. 285, of the 3rd instant (paragraphs 6 to 12). Great ruin has already been done by the large amount of luxuriant vegetation which covers the buildings. Beyond cutting down the growths from all these, particularly from the palace, nothing further can be done. But if this is carried out thoroughly, the process of decay will be stopped. The two reservoirs on the hills should also be included. It would be desirable to have this work proceeded with without delay. Perhaps the Public Works officers might visit the place, and see whether the overhanging and fractured portions of the domes of the palace could not be propped up at a small cost, to prevent their falling. Rupees 100 to 150 would go a long way to clearing out the most of the brushwood. It is unlikely that scaffolding would be required, as the coolies could reach the upper parts of the buildings by means of bamboo ladders. Perhaps some part of the outlay could be recovered from the sale of firewood.

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4. Item No. 4 is the "Delhi gate" at Arcot. Regarding this historical monument, the Collector remarks as follows:—

"As to No. 4, I think that, considering its historical associations, the building should be thoroughly cleaned and repaired, fitted with glass windows and venetians, and a pensioned sepoy on Rs. 3 per mensem appointed to watch it. It might be used as a rest-house by the Department of Public Works, who should look after it. In its present condition, it is a disgrace to the country which owes so much to Clive. Every unmannerly school boy writes his name and scribbles indecent pictures on the walls, while at night it is the common place of assignation in Arcot. Clive's watch fort should not be allowed to degenerate into a brothel."

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5. Items Nos. 5 and 6 are the rock-cut caves at Mamandur, near Conjeeveram; and the rock-cut sculptures and caves of Pancha Pandava Malai, near Arcot.

(a) *In re* the first of these, it is stated in the list of monuments for conservation, that "The front of these four caves should be fenced with iron railing, cost Rs. 500." It is noted also, that they are used as cattle-pens, and that the munsifs of Mamandur and Narasapalaiyam might be instructed to prevent persons lighting fires in the caves. The interesting Pallava inscriptions have been greatly damaged by the latter objectionable practice. If the munsifs could prevent this, there would be no need for any outlay. Even if railings have to be provided, the estimate might, I think, be greatly reduced. Two of the caves stand well up the hill side, are thus in no danger, and require no railing. The other two are at the base of the hill, and thus liable to be damaged, but a railing could be put up in front of the two, at a fraction of the expense, and would serve the purpose equally well, by using casuarina, palmyra, or other palm logs from the neighbourhood. The cost would thus be that of the carpenter for a few days, and the wood. All that is required

is to show the villagers that the caves are under the protection of the State, and when this is done, they would soon desist from frequenting them. Rs. 20 would be sufficient.

(b) In the list of monuments, Rs. 100 are estimated as the cost of an iron railing for the front of the rock-cut sculptures caves at Pancha Pandava Malai. When last visited by the Survey, these remains seemed in no danger. Bushes were growing close up to, but not injuring them in any way. A wooden railing not exceeding Rs. 10 would perfectly protect them.

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1	Badvel ..	Palugurallapalle.	Inscriptions Nos. 1 and 3.	126	Historical. Vijayana-gar and a local dynasty.	II-(a)	The inscriptions are lying exposed to weather, and can be removed at a trifling cost to the village choultry or other safe place.	The Collector's suggestions may be carried out.—A.R.
2	Siddhavat-tam.	Ganga Peruru.	Inscription on a stone in a field near a tank south-east of the village.	129	Historical. Vijayana-gar dynasty.	Do.	The stone lies exposed, and should be removed and placed in charge of village headman at the village choultry at a trifling cost.	
3	Do. ..	Siddhavat-tam.	Inscription on the rampart at the east gate of the Fort.	130	Historical.	Do.	Might be roofed over and protected from weather at a cost of Rs. 10.	

2. In order that all the lists from the different districts may be forwarded to Government simultaneously, I would suggest that a date be fixed before which they should be sent to this office. It might be most convenient to arrange the date before the 1st of April, so that the total of the sums annually required for conservation could be passed by Government and included in their budget.

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2. With regard to other items mentioned in the letters read above, it does not seem probable that Mr. Rea will recommend their inclusion in the list, and failing that no allotments will be provided for them.

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(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Archæological Surveyor.
,, Public Works Department.
Copy to Collector, North Arcot.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., First Assistant, Archæological Survey, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Bangalore, 21st May 1890, No. 302-C.

Collector of Bellary, No. 12, dated 10th January 1890.
 " of Tanjore, ,, 325, ,, 20th ,,
 " of Tinnevelly, No. 72, dated 21st January 1890.
 " of Trichinopoly, post-card, No. 68—18, dated 22nd January 1890.
 " of Salem, No. 179-E., dated 29th January 1890.
 " of Chingleput, post-card, No. 115-L., dated 29th January 1890.
 " of Vizagapatam, No. 442, dated 10th Feb. 1890.
 " of Madura, ,, 341, ,, 10th ,,
 " of Nellore, post-card, No. 328-Eng., dated 28th February 1890.
 " of South Canara, No. 1029, dated 18th March 1890.
 " of Malabar, No. 1098, dated 19th March 1890.
 " of Kistna, ,, 2508, ,, 2nd April "

With reference to the marginally-noted annual reports from Collectors on the conservation of ancient buildings in their districts, sent in accordance with Board's Proceedings, No. 304, dated 26th March 1888, I have the honor to report as follows :—

2. The following districts have sent *Nil* returns :—

Bellary, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Chingleput, Nellore, South Canara and Malabar.

3. No returns have as yet been received from the undernoted districts :—

Ganjam, Godávári, Kurnool, Anantapur, Cuddapah, North Arcot, South Arcot, Coimbatore and Nilgiri Hills.

4. Those cases which require the orders of Government are extracted from the reports as follows :—

(a) TINNEVELLY.

Present number.	Number in Printed list.	Taluk and village.	Name of Monument or Inscription.	Estimated cost.	Remarks (of Collector).	Remarks of the First Assistant, Archæological Survey.
(1)	14	Tinnevelly taluk, Ukki-rankotei.	Inscription on a rock called Anai-mottaiparai.	RS. 35	A railing is required (<i>vide</i> Column 8 of printed list, page 79). This apparently will have to be done at State expense—no funds are available.	
(2)	22	Patti Do.	Inscription No. 1 of A.D. 1535 regarding Vizianagar Dynasty.	50	Requires clearing and whitewashing, which will have to be done at State expense—no funds are available.	This seems a large sum for the purpose; and it is undesirable that the inscription should be whitewashed. A few rupees might suffice for the clearing. These remarks also apply to the "clearing and whitewashing" of inscriptions in items Nos. 20 and 21 of Collector's report, which the temple authorities have been requested to carry out at a cost of Rs. 25 and 150.
(3)	..	Edirkottai, Srivilliputtur taluk.	Inscription on a rock forming a side of a fountain (page 304 of Sewell's Antiquities).	5	The inscription is barely exposed and is getting worn by the action of the weather which causes disintegration of the rock. The inscription is illegible—it will be sufficient to cover it with an iron plate and nails on 4 sides at a cost of 5 rupees.	Instead of covering and hiding it with an iron plate, it would serve the purpose if it were given a coat of silica, or perhaps a soaking of mineral oil at intervals.