

- (1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 24-38
(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் _____
(3) ஆதாரங் குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் _____

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

பொது துறை

அரசாணை எண். <u>675-676</u> மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.	அச்சகம் பலவகை
நாள் : <u>7-8-1891</u>	<u>1891</u>

மடிக்கலோ துண்டாடி கையாளலோ கூடாது.

ORDINARY, PRINTED.

Public DEPARTMENT.	
G.O., DATED	7-0-91
No.	675 ✓ 676 ✓

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[Despatched by A. H. M.]

Archaeology & Epigraphy

Directing that certain reports containing the information called for by the Govt of India in connection with — he forwarded to that Govt.

For Letter

with remarks.
Enclosing copies of certain reports containing the information called for in letter of 1095-27-5-27 May 91 in connection with —

20-0-03 ✓

26-3-06 ✓

6-8-39 ✓

20/10/10 ✓

21-11-12 ✓

12-5-19 ✓

READ AND INDEX OF GOVERNMENT, STATE

18, No. 272

Back Paper, No.

of 18

Front Paper, No.

3140/91

of 18

Country No.

1436
14757-2
2100

Document with notes

Order, or, or Government-A.

Revised list out of file and numbered in original
(not pagged)

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2100

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Order complete with Letter 20

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- A = Print in full
- B = Not to be printed
- P = Print abstract only
- Q = Print heading only
- R = Print, but not for monthly volume

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1891.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

*From the Government of
Fort St. George.*

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

Letter, 7th August 1891, No. 676.

AUGUST.

Archæology and Epigraphy.

Forwarding, with remarks, copies of certain reports containing the information called for in letter, No. 1095—27-5, dated 27th May 1891, in connection with —.

7TH AUGUST 1891, No. 676, PUBLIC.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

LETTER—from

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF

FORT ST. GEORGE,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am directed to forward copies of the reports marginally noted, which contain the information required in your letter, No. 1095—27-5, dated 27th May 1891, and to say that this Government agrees in the remarks made in paragraph 3 of Dr. Hultzsch's letter.

From the Government Epigraphist, No. 166, dated 3rd July 1891.
From the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, No. 273, dated 6th July 1891.
From the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, No. 281, dated 8th July 1891.

2. The request made in paragraph 7 of your letter under reply has been noted. As the Archæological Department was provincialised at the beginning of the current year, particulars of the expenditure during 1890-91 cannot be furnished by the Local Government, but can, no doubt, be afforded by the Comptroller of India Treasuries.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

OOTACAMUND,
7th August 1891.

Chief Secretary.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of {1891} Madras.
PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 7th August 1891, No. 675.

AUGUST.

Archæology and Epigraphy.

Directing that certain reports containing the information called for by the Government of India in letter, No. 1095—27-5, dated 27th May 1891, in connection with —, be forwarded to that Government.

7TH AUGUST 1891, No. 675, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper :—

G.O., dated 17th June 1891, No. 472, Public.

READ—also the following papers :—

From Dr. E. HULTZSCH, Government Epigraphist, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 3rd July 1891, No. 166.

With reference to G.O., dated 17th June 1891, No. 472, Public, I have the honour to submit the following remarks, and to request that, in transmitting them to the Government of India, a printed copy of G.O., dated 10th June 1891, No. 452, Public, of which I have no spare copy left, might be annexed to the last paragraph of my letter.

2. With reference to paragraph 3 of the letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, I have much pleasure in reporting that my First Assistant, Mr. V. Venkayya, a Tamil Brahmin and M.A. of the Madras University, who took up his appointment in 1887; has proved a most docile student and effective helpmate, of whose talents, integrity and trained scholarship I can only speak in the highest terms. I enclose copies of a few papers which he has compiled during the time left from official work, and am convinced that much good and useful work in the field of epigraphical and historical research is to be expected from him in future. After Government had sanctioned the appointment of two further assistants, I engaged H. Krishna Sastri, a young Brahmin, as Canarese Assistant in January 1891. He is a good Sanskrit and Canarese scholar, and on account of his zeal and patience, promises to master the subject of his present studies. The appointment of a third assistant was hitherto dispensed with, because it was intended to choose a Telugu Brahmin, but no copies of Telugu inscriptions had yet been collected. As, however, it would not be desirable to wait any longer, I intend to engage as soon as possible a second Tamil Assistant, who will find ample materials to work on.

3. With reference to paragraph 4 of the letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, I beg to state that I shall be very glad to take up the new duty allotted to me, if the Government will be pleased to permit me to do so, and request that the Government might be so good as to transmit the following remarks in connection with the subject to the Government of India.

As regards the collection of epigraphical materials, I suggest that the Archaeological Surveyors might be asked to send me three well-inked impressions of every stone inscription which will come under their notice in the course of their tours. To one of the three copies should be attached a slip of paper bearing a number, a description of the location, the name of the village at or near which the inscription is found in vernacular and roman characters, the distance of the village from the taluk head-quarters, and the name of the district. In the case of copper-plate inscriptions, the originals should be sent, if obtainable. Otherwise, three negative impressions with printing ink should be taken on thin paper and forwarded with a note stating the condition of the ring and seal, the place of discovery, if known, and the present place of preservation. Of the three copies I would send one to the editor, the second eventually to the photo-lithographer, and retain the third for reference during the printing of the transcript. For the publication of the new materials, to which I could

at once add a considerable amount of unpublished matter, it would be either necessary to create a new journal or to make use of the *Epigraphia Indica*, which was founded by Dr. Burgess, the late Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India, in 1888. Owing to the editor's residence in Europe and to various other causes, the issue of the periodical has been hitherto somewhat irregular. If, as intended by the Government of India, I am to be responsible for all epigraphical publications, it will be unavoidable that Dr. Burgess' connection with the *Epigraphia Indica* ceases after the completion of the first volume, of which the eighth and last part is now in hand. For a dual editorship would doubtlessly lead to new delays resulting from conflicting orders. The Asôka inscriptions which Dr. Burgess originally intended to have published by Professor Bühler in the *Epigraphia Indica* could perhaps be more advantageously issued as a new edition of General Cunningham's Volume I of the *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*.

If Government approve of my undertaking the sole editorship of the second and subsequent volumes of the *Epigraphia Indica*, I would adopt the following system, in order to ensure a speedy and accurate publication of the materials received from the Archaeological Surveyors. Those inscriptions which deserve to be published would be at once despatched to one of the three leading authorities on Indian epigraphy, viz., Mr. Fleet, Dr. Bühler and Dr. Kielhorn, or taken up by myself or by my First Assistant, Mr. V. Venkayya, as far as the preparation of the Madras volumes leaves no leisure for other work. After receipt from the author, the manuscript would be controlled and marked for the press. In the case of European contributors, I would read and correct the galley-proof of the paper with the help of the manuscript before the same galley comes back from Europe. In this way the form-proof which the author subsequently receives will be fairly clean, and the loss of time entailed by a second form-proof avoided. Much space could be saved by obliging authors to print metrical inscriptions according to the lines of the original, and not, as hitherto, in half or quarter verses. The question if, and at what rate, authors shall be paid for their contributions, is one which I do not feel competent to touch. It is, however, to be feared that, if the payments introduced by Dr. Burgess are suddenly abolished or considerably reduced, the undertaking might not receive the warm support which it deserves. I am expecting the orders of Government as to the funds which will be available for the new publication, and what portions of them will have to be respectively spent on printing, the reproduction of facsimiles, and authors' fees.

In conclusion, I suggest that it would be advantageous not to have the future volumes of the journal printed at Calcutta, but by the Government Press at Madras, which, under the able superintendence of Mr. R. Hill, can compete with any Indian press. In this case the distance between the editor and the press would only be one day. Secondly, it would be possible to include in the volumes some of the numerous inscriptions in Tamil—the only Indian character which cannot be properly transcribed in roman characters, but for which no type is available at Calcutta. Besides, the printing of the next volume could then begin at once, without waiting for the completion of Dr. Burgess' first volume of the *Epigraphia Indica*.

4. With reference to paragraph 7 of the letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, I have the honour to report that, during the official year 1890-91, the first part of the second volume of South Indian Inscriptions (119 pages quarto) was printed. The part can be issued as soon as four plates, which are to be included in it, will have been received from the photo-lithographic office at Calcutta. The results of a short tour which was undertaken in November and December 1890 are briefly touched in the enclosed progress report for the second half of the official year.

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 6th July 1891, No. 273.

With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 472, Public, dated 17th June 1891, I have the honour to submit the report called for in paragraph 5 of the Government of India letter therein embodied.

2. The following is an abstract of Archæological Survey work accomplished :—

MADURA DISTRICT.

Great temple of Rámesvaram and other remains on the island of Pámban (of the 17th century).

Great temple of Madura and other temples and palace buildings in the town (17th century).

Numbers of other temples in the district (11th century *et seq.*)

Excavation of prehistoric remains at several places around Madura and on Palni Hills near Kodaikáanal.

CHINGLEPUT DISTRICT.

All the Pallava rock-cut caves, monoliths, and structures at Mámallapuram (Seven Pagodas) and Saluvankuppam (5th to 7th century).

Pallava temples of Conjeeveram (5th century *et seq.*).

Chola temples of the district (11th century).

Excavation of prehistoric remains at Pallávaram and other places near.

ANANTAPUR DISTRICT.

Group of remains (temples, palace, fort and tombs) at Pennakonda and other places surrounding.

Large temple of Lepakshi (16th century.)

NORTH ARCOT DISTRICT.

Great temples of Vellore, Virinjipuram, Tiruvallam and Denikapuram.

Clive's gate at Arcot.

Numbers of Chola and Jaina temples, caves, and rock-cut sculptures at other places in the district (11th and 14th to 16th century).

KISTNA DISTRICT.

Group of temples and rock-cut caves in Bezváda, and groups of caves at Undavalli and Mogulrazapuram (7th century).

Excavation of the Buddhist stupas at Amarávati, Jaggayapeta, Garikapad and Faringidibha (50 A.D. *et seq.*)

Chola and other temples in the taluks of Bápatla, Narasaravupeta, Bezváda and Krósúr (11th century *et seq.*).

GODAVARI DISTRICT.

Survey and excavation of the extensive group of Buddhist caves and mounds at Guntapalli (150 B.C.)

Temples at Ellore, Dendaluru, Pedda Vegi and Kámavarapukota.

NELLORE DISTRICT.

The temples in Nellore town, Kanuparti, and a few other places in the east of the district (dates various).

TANJORE DISTRICT.

Great temple of Tanjore (11th century).

TRICHINOPOLY DISTRICT.

Large temple at Gangaikondacholapuram and other temples of one taluk (11th century *et seq.*)

BELLARY DISTRICT.

Extensive group of temples, palace buildings, &c., at the ancient capital town of Vijayanagar (14th to 16th century).

The finely-sculptured Chalukyan temples of the district (12th century).

GANJAM DISTRICT.

One temple.

3. As to work remaining, the following is the number of *places* (noted in Vol. I, of Sewell's *Lists of Antiquities*) where archaeological remains are reported to exist :—

District.	Number of taluks.	Number of places reported to contain remains.
Ganjam	11	65
Vizagapatam	15	116
Godáviri	15	171
Kistna	15	432
Kurnool	8	216
Bellary	9	204
Anantapur	7	132
Cuddapah	11	174
Nellore	13	162
North Arcot	14	290
Chingleput and Madras	6	126
Salem	10	183
South Arcot and Pondicherry	9	118
Coimbatore	10	145
Nilgiri	6	48
South Canara	6	106
Malabar	9	259
Cochin State	..	10
Travancore State	..	49
Trichinopoly	6	74
Tanjore	9	229
Madura	9	201
Tinnevelly	9	152
Total		3,662

In addition to these, there are over 300 ancient Buddhist and other mounds in the Kistna district which have since been catalogued. The three other Northern districts of Godáviri, Vizagapatam and Ganjam, having been the principal places of settlement during the Buddhist period, may also be expected to contain at least a like proportional number of mounds covering the most interesting remains in the country. They have, however, not yet been catalogued, though orders have now been issued to have this done. As far as my experience goes, the lists of antiquities are very incomplete; but, on the other hand, numbers of the places entered contain buildings or other remains of no particular note, and which it is unnecessary to survey. In other cases, places may have buildings similar to others already surveyed, so that it is unnecessary to delineate them wholly, though sometimes some particular portions, such as sculptures or other details, may be worth copying. Then again, many of the places include large numbers of remains, such as Vijayanagar with over 87 important buildings of various kinds and sizes, besides numerous sculptures; and the Seven Pagodas with close on 100 caves, temples, and monoliths. Almost every town and the larger villages have each at least two temples (Saivite and Vaishnava); many of them of large size. I may note for example that the town of Kumbakónam has 16 well-sculptured temples. Conjeeveram is full of temples of considerable antiquity, chief among them being the great Siva temple; several of the others nearly approach it in size and profusion of sculptural detail. Over 283 inscriptions have been noted in this town, but this does not complete the list.

The Madras Presidency contains numbers of immense temples exceeding in size any found in other parts of India, and a wealth of artistic ornament is scattered among them. The great temples specially noted by Dr. Fergusson in his *History of Indian and Eastern Architecture* may be mentioned; they are those at Tiruvallúr, Srirangam, Chillumbaram, Tinnevelly, Kumbakónam, Conjeeveram, Peroor, Tanjore, Madura, Vellore and Rámesvaram. The last four have been surveyed, the others are

still to do. As example of their extent, I may state that the last named covers ground measuring 868 feet by 672 feet. Those specially noted are among the first of the great South Indian temples, but there are large numbers of others which nearly approach them in size and architectural value.

4. As to the time necessary to finish the survey of the archæological remains of the Presidency, I would point out that, with such great numbers of varied remains spread over such a vast extent of country, and with a comparatively limited working staff, an estimate of the time necessary to finish even the most important of them can only be approximate. It would probably take about ten years to do so. To make a complete survey of one of the largest temples, such as Ramesvaram, takes over two months. The exploration of the Buddhist mounds in the Kistna district alone, which doubtless cover numbers of valuable marble sculptures and inscriptions of the earliest date, would itself take several years. There are in addition the un-noted mounds in the three Northern districts. The district of Ganjam, among other places, is an entirely unexplored field, with a style of architecture peculiarly its own. Then again, the great majority of the remains in this Presidency have not been examined or even seen by any one capable of judging of the amount of work which may be required to survey them, so that an accurate computation of the time necessary is almost impossible.

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 8th July 1891, No. 281.

With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., dated 17th June 1891, No. 472, Public, I have the honour to forward a report of work done during the year 1890-91 :—

MADURA.

The survey of the ancient remains in Madura was continued up to the middle of April 1890. The following are the buildings included :—The great temple, Tirumala Naick's choultry or Puthu Mandapa, Teppakulam, and Tirumala Naick's palace now used as a court and public offices. The usual necessary drawings were made. These include a large plan of the entire structure; a sectional drawing taken across the whole length of the temple, showing the various shrines, mandapas, and six of the lofty gopuras, each covered from base to summit with sculptured figures. The various other drawings were selected so as best to show the architecture and sculpture. A set of photographs was also taken.

ALLAGARKOIL.

About 12 miles north of Madura, standing at the base of some hills, are some extensive and interesting ancient remains. They are enclosed in a fortified courtyard, extending over 2,200 feet by 1,200 feet. The principal buildings are those attached to a temple, itself surrounded by a court measuring over 273 feet by 156 feet. The temple buildings generally belong to the same date as the inner structures of the Madura temple. Two curious round grain towers, named Ramakalanjiyam and Latch-manakalanjiyam, stand in one of the courts. The principal shrine is of earlier date than the others, and is of unusual plan, being a circular chamber with a circular prakaram round it, and an ante-chamber in front.

In the bedchamber for the images is a rare and antique bedstead measuring about 12 feet by 10 feet on plan, and about 15 feet high. It has a pedestal of sculptured blackstone, inlaid with small ivory figures, supporting four carved blackstone pillars ornamented with small detached shafts and figures in ivory. The roof or canopy is a coloured wooden frame work, also elaborately inlaid with ivory sculpture. All the ivory work is carved in most intricate and minute designs. The bed is as unique as it is interesting. It is stated to have been the gift of Tirumala Naick, whose statue stands at the entrance. Owing to the darkness and smallness of the chamber, no photograph could be taken; but drawings were made.

Outside the large east gopura is an interesting collection of swords and bill-hooks (Tam., rutharuvakkal) of all sizes from 2 feet 4 inches to 12 feet; clubs (Tam., kethaikal), and tridents or spears (Tam., sulangal). The temple is resorted to by certain of the Kallans, and these are among their offerings. From the branches of a tree outside hang some small cradles, offerings from people whose prayers for offspring have been answered.

In the fortified courtyard adjacent to the temple, quite a small town has evidently once existed. The main street leading up to the temple can be distinctly traced with its lines of mounds on each side. Everything is now completely deserted,—due probably to the feverishness of the locality. All the buildings are of the date of Tirumala Naick, by whose benefactions they seem to have been built.

Near the temple are the extensive remains of a palace (Tirumala Naick's), with pillared corridors, and lofty domed halls in the style of the Madura palace. The domes are all fractured, and great portions of them have fallen. The temple here is even yet considered a sacred one, and the king would use the palace as his place of residence when on pilgrimage to the shrine, or when he wished to retire from the turmoil of State affairs at the capital. A smaller mahal stands some distance down the street. It would probably be used by the king's officers of state.

A number of small shrines and open mandapas with many finely-sculptured, life-size figures, stand at other parts of the street. Some of these statues are, as in the Puthu Mandapa at Madura, pointed out as those of Tirumala Naick and his wives. Various other ruins stand inside the large courtyard.

On the hills above are two Vasantha mandapas, in connection with the temple, from which a stream of clear, cool water continually flows down the mountain side, and passes by a cut channel through the large temple.

All the buildings have been much ruined by the vegetation which covers them. Proposals for the preservation of these interesting remains have since been made.

By the side of the road from Madura to Allagarkoil a number of rest-houses or mandapas for pilgrims stand at intervals. They are of similar date to the temple, and would doubtless be much used in former times when the shrine was a more important one than it is now-a-days.

Plans and other drawings, photographs, and a map of the entire remains, have been made.

NORTH ARCOT AND MADURA DISTRICTS.

On returning from Madura, the staff remained at head quarters till the end of June. Survey operations were conducted during the months of July, August and September. At the request of the Jaghirdar of Arni, I visited the village of Devikapuram, in the Arni jaghire, and inspected and surveyed the large and ancient temples there. A halt was made at Arcot, and drawings made of the "Delhi Gate" of the Fort.

The other members of the staff who had not accompanied me to North Arcot had gone to Madura to resume the survey of the palace and temples. Proceeding to Madura, I saw to the completion of this work, and then made a tour through parts of the Madura district. Two ancient temples at Devipatnam were surveyed. Kila-karai was visited and the remains on the beach inspected; but little could be accomplished for want of coolies. It does not appear, however, that much could be brought to light by digging, as the surface indications would seem to show that all the buildings which formerly existed had been constructed of mud. Small beads found in number among this material indicate that the inhabitants had been low castes; and numbers of worn pieces of pearl oyster shells might point to their having been pearl fishers; one small, old, corroded pearl was got among these. It seems that gold and silver coins are occasionally picked up, but they all find their way to the goldsmith, and I could get none of them. I got a number of copper coins, among which was a Roman one. The coins generally are much the same as those found at Māmalanuram near Madras.

At Ramesvaram, I gained some interesting information on the ceremonies performed by pilgrims while on their journey to and at the shrine. I inspected the sacred bathing-place of Dhanishkodi, at present situated at the end of a long strip of sand about 15 miles south-east of Ramesvaram. It is considered sacred as being the meeting place of the waters of the two seas—Mahothathi on the north, and Rathnakaram on the south. Though this bathing-place is of very early date, there are no ancient buildings at the present site; and on inquiries, I learned that the sea is receding at this point and the land has advanced at the rate of about five miles in the last 40 years. A narrow strip of shallow water separates the present Dhanishkodi from an island about 15 miles long, and when this silts up, as it is steadily doing, the pilgrims will have to travel other 15 miles to the meeting of the waters. This being the case, any ancient buildings must be looked for nearer Ramesvaram where the original bathing place was first situated. Several places were pointed out where bathing had formerly taken place, but which are now sanded up. The most ancient of these is at Mundrayar chattram about seven miles from Ramesvaram, where I found a small deserted and very ancient shrine of Setumudramalingaswami. This seems to have been the original site of Dhanishkodi, and bathing at one time took place close in front of the shrine.

The other buildings surveyed during this portion of the tour were the large temple at Tiruppurankunram and the finely-sculptured temple at Kovilpati.

During the last three months of the year 1890, inking work was carried on at head-quarters. The drawings finished were principally from the Anantapur and Bellary districts. I was engaged writing a report on the same places. A large roll of other drawings from Vijayanagar was completed, and sent to Dr. Burgess, to accompany a report which had been previously forwarded. A number of drawings was also sent to Calcutta for the Technical Art series, and eight sheets were selected.

Thereafter, the staff went into camp at Tanjore, and began the survey of the great temple there. The temple dates from the 11th century, and is the most ancient of the important large temples of Southern India. On the completion of the survey of the Tanjore temple, I visited the large temple at Avadayarkoil, which was said to be famed for its splendid carvings. Some of these are very fine, and I intend to make a partial survey at a future date. On my return from Avadayarkoil, I proceeded *via* Kumbakonam, to Gangaikondacholapuram, whose temple it was considered necessary to survey on account of its unique character, and through its being contemporaneous with the temple at Tanjore. The work done here includes a complete set of drawings, photographs and copies of the inscriptions. Some mounds there were also inspected. They have never been explored, and though excavation might show interesting results, yet, as the ancient floors are six feet below the present surface of the surrounding ground, the work would be expensive.

Some drawings were made at the large temple of Karukaikavalapparkoil near Gangaikondacholapuram.

I visited the following places in the Udayarpalaiyam taluk:—

At Jayankondacholapuram, sketches of some Jaina images were made, and notes taken of the traditional history.

The temple at Kamarasavalli was partially surveyed, and other antiquities noted.

Some very ancient temples at Kirparavur, and a beautifully-carved Chola temple at Melparavur, were inspected for future survey. The latter temple is of archaic design, and has a large amount of fine sculpture cut in blackstone. Among these are some minutely-carved piers resting on couchant lions, similar in design to those in the more ornate caves at the Seven Pagodas. They are specially worthy of delineation. In the building are many good subjects for casts in plaster. There are a number of archaic inscriptions on the walls.

The temple at Tirumalavadi is a large building with architecture resembling in part the temple at Tanjore. There are long lines of Chola inscriptions on the walls. This temple will be afterwards surveyed.

With reference to G.O., No. 19, Public, of 9th January 1891, the temple at Kontiagod, in the Ganjam district, was surveyed and the inscriptions copied. The building is in the Orissan style of architecture, and has characteristics entirely different from that found in the Dravidian architecture of South India.

By permission of Government, a draughtsman underwent a course of instruction in the taking of plaster casts at the School of Arts. The survey will thus be in a position to supply the School of Arts, or such other public institutions as may require them, casts of the best examples of indigenous art, for the instruction of technical or other art students.

The Amaravati and other marbles which I excavated some time ago arrived in the Madras Museum.

A revised list of ancient monuments selected for conservation was in course of preparation towards the close of the official year.

ORDER—dated 7th August 1891, No. 675, Public.

The reports read above will be communicated to the Government of India, with the intimation that the Government agrees in the remarks made in paragraph 3 of Dr. Hultzsch's letter.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Government Epigraphist.
„ Superintendent, Archaeological Survey.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of {1891} Madras.
PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 7th August 1891, No. 675.

AUGUST.

Archæology and Epigraphy.

Directing that certain reports containing the information called for by the Government of India in letter, No. 1095—27-5, dated 27th May 1891, in connection with —, be forwarded to that Government.

2. The request made in
para: 7 of your letter under
reply has been noted. As
the Archaeological Dept
was provincialised ~~only~~
at the beginning of the cur-
rent year particulars of
the expenditure during
1890/91 cannot be furnished
by the local Govt: but can
no doubt be afforded by
the Comptroller of India
Treasuries.

Archaeological Dept.

J
13 July

Hon: Mr: Stokes C.S.I.

OK.
10/7.

Col: ...
...
...

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated 17 June 1891, No. 472.

Again G.O., dated 18, No.

Current No. 1936 of 1891, dated 3 July from the Govt Epigraphist.

Current No. 1975 of 1891, dated 6 July from the Supt. Arch. Survey.
— 2000 — — 8 — — 82 — — 82 —

Order. 7th Augt. 91 No. 675

The reports read above
will be commd. to the Govt.
of India with the intimation
the Govt. agrees in the re-
marks made in para. 3
of Dr. Hultzsch's letter.

To the Govt. Epigraphist &
" Supt. Arch. Survey } No. 676
Letter.

To the Secy to the G. of India.
Rev. & Agri. Dept.

50 copies each of
letter & order
sent to Govt. of India
on 10/8/91
& the Secy to the Govt.

* From the Govt. Epigraphist,
No. 166, dt 3.7.91.
From the Supt. Arch. Survey,
No. 273, dt 6.7.91.
From — dt — No. 273 dt 8/7/91.

I am directed to forward
copies of the reports margin-
ally noted which contain
the information ^{required} asked
for in your letter No. 1095
dt 27.5.91, and to say that
this Govt. agrees in the re-
marks made in para. 3
of Dr. Hultzsch's letter.

or been
CURRENT No. 2000

Public DEPARTMENT.

17/07/91 No. 472 orig. Pub
9/1/91 No. 17

From

The Supt Archaeological
Survey

No. 281

Dated 8 July } 1891
Received to do }

Enclosures

SUBJECT.

Forwarding report of
the Archaeological
work done during the
year 1890-91 in certain
Districts

Chughtaman undertaken a course of instruction in the taking of plaster casts at the School of Arts. The Survey will thus be in a position to supply the School of Arts or such other public institutions as may require them, casts of the best examples of indigenous art, for the instruction of technical or other art students.

The Amaravati and other marbles which I excavated some time ago, arrived in the Madras Museum.

A revised list of ancient monuments selected for conservation was in course of preparation towards the close of the official year.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant


Superintendent,
Archaeol. Survey,
Madras.

large temple of Kamakavalappanvil near
Tanjavicholapuram.

I visited the following places in the
Tanjavicholapuram taluk

At Tanjavicholapuram, sketches
of some Siva images were made, and notes
taken of the traditional history.

The temple at Kamarakavalli was
partially surveyed, and other antiquities
noted.

Some very ancient temples at Tir-
paravur, and a beautifully carved Chola
temple at Melparavur, were inspected
for future survey. The latter temple is
of archaic design, and has a large amount
of fine sculpture cut in blackstone.

Among these are some minutely carved figures
resting on elephant lions, similar in design
to those in the more ornate temples at the
Hem Paganas. They are especially worthy
of attention. In the building are many
good subjects for casts in plaster. There
are a number of archaic inscriptions on
the walls.

The temple at Tirumataradi is
a large building with architecture
resembling in part, the temple at Tanjore.
There are long lines of Chola inscriptions
on the walls. This temple will be
afterwards surveyed.

With reference to No. 19 Public
of 9th January 1891, the temple at Kottiyar
in the Tanjore district was surveyed
and the inscriptions copied. The building
is in the Orissan style of architecture,
and has characteristics entirely
different from that found in the Dravidian
architecture of South India.

By permission of Government, &

the year 1890, printing work was carried on at head-quarters. The drawings finished were principally from the Anantapur and Bellary districts. I was engaged writing a report on the same places. A large roll of other drawings from Vijayanagar were completed and sent to Dr. Burgess, to accompany a report which had been previously forwarded. A number of drawings were also sent to Calcutta for the Technical Art series, and eight sheets were selected.

Thereafter, the staff went into camp at Tanjore, and began the survey of the great temple there. The temple dates from the 11th century, and is the most ancient of the important large temples of Southern India. In the completion of the survey of the Tanjore temple, I visited the large temple at Anadayarkott which was said to be famed for its splendid carvings. Some of these are very fine, and I intend to make a partial survey at a future date. On my return from Anadayarkott, I proceeded via Srirangapatnam to Tangaitondacholapuram, whose temple is much considered necessary to survey on account of its unique character, and though its being contemporaneous with the temple at Tanjore. The work done here, included a complete set of drawings, photographs, and copies of the inscriptions. Some monuments there were also inspected. They have never been explored, and though excavation might show interesting results, yet, as the ancient floors are in fact below the present surface of the surrounding ground, the work would be expensive.

Some drawings were made at the

performed by pilgrims while on their journey to and at the shrine. I suspected the sacred bathing place of Thamishkudi, at present situated at the end of a long strip of sand about 15 miles south-east of Rameswaram. It is considered sacred as being the meeting place of the waters of the two seas - Makuthathi on the north, and Rathnatharam on the south. Though this bathing-place is of very early date, there are no ancient buildings at the present site; and on enquiries, I learned that the sea is receding at this point and the land has advanced at the rate of about 5 miles in the last 40 years. A narrow strip of shallow water separates the present Thamishkudi from an island about 15 miles long, and when this strip dries, as it is ~~usually~~ doing, the pilgrims will have to travel over 15 miles to the meeting of the waters. This being the case, any ancient buildings must be looked for, nearer Rameswaram where the original bathing-place was first situated. Several places were pointed out, where bathing had formerly taken place, but which are now landlocked. The most ancient of these is at Mundrayar Chattram about 7 miles from Rameswaram, where I found a small deserted and very ancient shrine of Setumudrama Lingaswami. This seems to have been the original site of Thamishkudi, and bathing at one time took place close in front of the shrine.

The other buildings surveyed during this portion of the tour were the large temple at Chirappurankuram and the finely sculptured temple at Kovilpatti.

During the last three months of

the *Amia jaghira*, and inspected and surveyed the large and ancient temple there. A tall and small shrine, and drawings made of the "Rishi" of the fort.

The other members of the expedition had not accompanied me to Madurai, but had gone to Madurai to resume the survey of the Palace and Temples. According to Madurai, I saw to the completion of this work, and then made a tour through parts of the Madurai district, and ancient temples at Devipattanam were damaged. Nilakavai was visited.

The remains on the beach inspected, but little could be accomplished for want of coolies. It was not apparent, however,

that much could be brought to light by digging, as the surface indications would seem to show that all the buildings which formerly existed had been constructed of mud. Small beads found in number among the material, indicate that the inhabitants had been low castes; and numbers of worn

pieces of pearl oyster shells might point to their having been pearl fishers; one small old corroded pearl was got among these.

It seems that gold and silver coins are occasionally picked up, but they all find their way to the goldsmith, and I could get none of them. I got a number of copper coins, among which

was a Roman one. The coins generally are much the same as those found at Kumbakonam near Madurai.

At Rameswaram, I gained some interesting information in the ceremonies

Some distance down the street. It would probably be used by the King's officers of state. A number of small shrines and open mandapas with many finely sculptured life-size figures, stand at other parts of the street. Some of these statues are, as in the Puthur mandapa at Madura, painted out as those of Linnatus March and his mines. Various other ruins stand inside the large courtyard.

On the hills above, are two vacant mandapas, in connection with the temple, from which a stream of clear cool water continually flows down the mountain side, and passes by a cut channel through the large temple.

All the buildings have been much ruined by the vegetation which covers them. Proposals for the preservation of these interesting remains have since been made.

By the side of the road from Madura to Allagarkoil a number of rest-houses or mandapas for pilgrims stand at intervals. They are of similar date to the temple, and would doubtless be much used in former times when the shrine was a more important one than it is now-a-days.

Plans and other drawings, and photographs, and a map of the entire remains have been made.

North Arcot and Madura Districts

On returning from Madura the staff remained at headquarters till the end of June. Survey operations were conducted during the months of July, August and September.

At the request of the Jaghirdar of Arni, I visited the village of Venkayapuram in

is as unique as it is interesting. It is stated to have been the gift of Tirumala Naick, whose statue stands at the entrance. Owing to the darkness and smallness of the chamber, no photograph could be taken, but drawings were made.

Outside the large east ~~gopuram~~ is an interesting collection of arrows and billhooks (Tam. *utharuvakkal*) of all sizes from 2 feet 4 inches to 12 feet; ~~clubs~~ (Tam. *kethakkal*); and tridents or spears (Tam. *salangal*).

The temple is visited to by certain of the Kallams, and these are among their offerings. From the branches of a tree outside, hang some small cradles, offerings from people whose prayers for offspring have been answered.

In the fortified walled ~~adjacent~~ adjacent to the temple, quite a small town has evidently once existed. The main street leading up to the temple can be distinctly traced with its lines of mounds on each side. Everything is now completely deserted, due probably to the ferociousness of the locality. All the buildings are of the date of Tirumala Naick, by whose benefactions they seem to have been built.

Near the temple are the extensive remains of a palace (Tirumala Naick's), with pillared corridors, and lofty domed halls in the style of the Madurai Palace. The domes are all fractured, and great portions of them have fallen. The temple here is ~~the~~ even yet considered a sacred one, and the king would use the palace as his place of residence when on pilgrimages to the shrine, or when he wished to retire from the turmoil of State affairs at the capital. A smaller mahal stands

lofty gopuras each coned from base to summit with sculptured figures. The various other drawings were selected so as best to show the architecture and sculpture. A set of photographs was also taken.

Alagarhoil.

About 12 miles north of Madurai standing at the base of some hills, are some ~~extensive~~ interesting ancient remains. They are enclosed in a fortified court yard, extending over 2,200 feet by 1,200 feet. The principal buildings are those attached to a temple, itself surrounded by a court measuring over 273 feet by 156 feet. The temple buildings generally, belong to the same date as the inner structures of the Madurai temple. Two curious round grain towers, named Ramakalanjiyam and Latchmanakalanjiyam, stand in one of the courts. The principal shrine is of earlier date than the others, and is of unusual plan, being a circular chamber with a circular prakaram round it, and an ante-chamber in front.

In the bedchamber for the images is a rare and antique bedstead measuring about 12 feet by 10 feet on plan, and about 15 feet high. It has a pedestal of sculptured blackstone, inlaid with small ivory figures, supporting four carved blackstone pillars ornamented with small detached shafts and figures in ivory. The roof or canopy is a domed wooden framework, also elaborately inlaid with ivory sculpture. All the ivory work is carved in most intricate and minute designs. The bed

Government Archaeological Survey, and Conservation of
Ancient Monuments in Southern India,

Bangalore.

8th July 1891.

No. 284.



From

A. REA, ESQUIRE, M.R.A.S.,

Superintendent,
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY, MADRAS.

To

The Chief Secretary
to the Government of
Madras.

SIR,

With reference to para 2. of G.O.
No. 492, Public, dated 17th June 1891, I
have the honour to forward a report of
work done during the year 1890-91.

Madras.

The survey of the ancient remains
in Madras, was continued up to the
middle of April 1891. The following
are the buildings included:— The
great temple, Tirumala Naicker's shrine
or Puthu Mandapa, Tappakulam,
and Tirumala Naicker's Palace now
used as a court and public offices.
The most necessary drawings were
made. These include a large plan
of the entire structure, a sectional
drawing taken across the whole length
of the temple, showing the various
shrines, mandapas, and side of the

CURRENT No.

[9]

Public DEPARTMENT.

From

*A. H. E. E. E.
Archaeological
Survey*

No. 273

Dated 6-7

Received 7-7

Enclosures

SUBJECT.

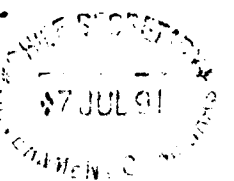
*Submitting report of
the Archaeological
Survey work in certain
districts*

8
work which may be required
to survey them, so that an accurate
computation of the time necessary, is
almost impossible.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servant

A. M.

Superintendent
Archaeol. Survey
Madras.



87
Which nearly approach them in
size and architectural nature.

4:— As to the time necessary
to finish the survey of the archaeo-
-logical remains of the Presidency,
I would point out that with such
great numbers of varied remains
spread over such a vast extent of
country, and with a comparatively
limited working staff, an estimate
of the time necessary to finish even
the most important of them can
only be approximate. It would
probably take about ten years to
do so. To make a complete survey
of one of the largest temples, such
as Ramessaram, takes over ten
months. The exploration of the
Buddhist mounds in the Ristna
district alone, which doubtless
cover numbers of valuable marble
sculptures and inscriptions of the
earliest date, would itself take
several years. There are in
addition, the un-noted mounds
in the three northern districts.
The district of Tanjam, among
other places, is an entirely un-
-explored field, with a style of
architecture peculiarly its own.

Then again, the great
majority of the remains in this
Presidency have not been
examined or even seen by anyone
capable of judging of the amount

numerous sculptures; and the temple
Pagodas with close on 100 temple
and monoliths.

Almost every town and the
larger villages have each at least
two temples (Saiwite and Basishnema);
many of them of large size. I may
note for example that the town of
Kumbakonam has 16 well sculptured
temples. Conjeeveram is full of temples
of considerable antiquity, Chief among
them being the great Siva temple; several
of the others nearly approach it in size
and profusion of sculptural detail. Over
283 inscriptions have been noted in
this town, but this does not complete
the list.

The Madras Presidency contains
numbers of immense temples surpassing
in size any found in other parts of
India, and a wealth of artistic
ornament is scattered among them.

The great temples specially noted by
Dr. Fergusson in his History of Indian
and Eastern Architecture may be
mentioned; they are those at - Tiruvallur,
Chingham, Chillumbaram, Timmerville,
Kumbakonam, Conjeeveram, Perovv,
Tanjore, Madurai, Nellore, and Ramewaram.

The last four have been surveyed,
the others are still to do. As example
of their extent, I may state that
the last named covers ground measuring
868 feet by 672 feet. Those specially
noted are among the first of the
great South Indian temples, but
there are large numbers of others

In addition to these, there are over 300 Ancient Buddhist and other mounds in the Kistna District which have since been catalogued. The three other southern districts of Godavari, Nizagapatam, and Sangam having been the principal places of settlement during the Buddhist period, may also be expected to contain at least a like proportional number of mounds covering the most interesting remains in the country. They have however, not yet been catalogued, though orders have now been issued to have this done.

As far as my experience goes, the lists of antiquities are very incomplete; but on the other hand, numbers of the places entered contain buildings or other remains of no particular note, and which it is unnecessary to survey. In other cases places may have buildings similar to others already surveyed, so that it is unnecessary to delineate them wholly, though some-~~times~~ times some particular portions - such as sculptures or other details - may be worth copying.

Then again, many of the places include large numbers of remains, such as Vijayanagar with over 87 important buildings of various kinds and sizes, besides

3:— As to work remaining, the following is the number of places (noted in Vol. I. of Semell's Lists of Antiquities) where archaeological remains are reported to exist:—

District.	No. of Tables.	No. of places reported to contain remains.
Ganjam —	11	65
Ningapattam —	15	116
Godavari —	15	171
Kistna —	15	432
Kurnool —	8	216
Bellary —	9	204
Anantapur —	7	132
Cuddapah —	11	174
Nellore —	13	162
North Arcot —	14	290
Chingelput & Madras } —	6	126
Salem —	10	185
South Arcot & Pondicherry } —	9	118
Coinbatore —	10	145
Milgiri —	6	48
South Canara —	6	106
Malabar —	9	259
Cochin State —		10
Travancore State —		49
Trichinopoly —	6	74
Tanjore —	9	229
Madurai —	9	201
Tinnevely —	9	152
Total		3662

Tanjore District

Survey and excavation of
the extensive group of Buddhist
caves and monuments at ~~Antapalli~~
(150. B.C.)

Temples at Ilor, Den ~~Ilor~~,
and Kam Padda ~~Padda~~ and Kamavara ~~Ilor~~
- ~~Ilor~~

Nellore District

The temples in Nellore town,
Kamparti, and a few other places in
the east of the district (dates various).

Tanjore District

Great temple of Tanjore (11th cent.).

Trichinopoly District

Large temple at Tanjore
- ~~Konda~~ Chola ~~panam~~ and other temples of
the ~~atank~~. (11th cent. st. seq.)

Bellary District

Extensive group of temples,
palace buildings &c at the ancient
spiritual town of Vijayanagar, (14th to 16th
cent.)
The finely sculptured Chaluk-
-yan temples of the district (12th ~~cent.~~ ^{cent.})

Gangam District

One temple.

(5th to 7th cent.).

Pallava temples of Conjeeram (5th cent
et seq.).

Chola Temples of the district, (11th cent.).

Destruction of prehistoric remains
at Pallavaram and other places near.

Tranvempur District

Group of remains (temples,
palace, fort and towers) at Pennakonda
and other places surrounding.

Large temple of Lepakeshi,
(16th cent.).

North Arcot District.

Great temples of Vellore,
Virinjipuram, Tiruvallam, and
Dumkapuram.

Clive's gate at Arcot.

Remains of Chola and Jaina
temples, caves, and rock-cut sculptures
at other places in the district.
(11th and 14th to 16th cent.).

Tiruvannamalai District

Group of temples and rock-
cut caves in Perumadu, and groups
of caves at Undavalli and Mugel-
-sarpapuram (7th cent.).

Destruction of the Buddhist
stupas at Amaravati, Saggayapeta,
Tarikupad and Faringachitha (50 A.D.
et seq.).

Chola and other temples
in the taluk of Papasala, Marasara-
-sarpeta, Perumadu & Prosur (11th cent.).

Archaeological Survey report
Bangalore. 6th July
1891

No. 273.

From
M. R. S. S. Squire M. R. S. S.,
Superintendent.

To
The Chief Secretary
to the Government of
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to para. 2 of G.O.
No. 472 Public dated 17th June 1891, I
have the honour to submit the report
called for, in para 5 of the Government
of India letter therein mentioned.

2:- The following is an abstract
of Archaeological Survey work accom-
plished.

Madura District.

Great temple of Rameswaram, and
other remains on the island of Pamban.
(of the 12th century).

Great temple of Madura, and other
temples and palace buildings in the town.
(12th century).

Remains of other temples in the
district (11th and 12th).

Excavation of prehistoric remains
at several places around Madura, and
on Palni hills near Kodaikanal.

Chingapat District.

All the Pallava rock-cut caves,
monoliths, and structures at Mammalla-
puram (Seven Pagodas) and Saluvankuppam.

30

be so good as to un-flowing system, in order to insure
connection with the late publication of the materials

As regards Archaeological Surveyors. Those
materials, I suggest to be published, would be at once
might be asked to of the three leading authorities on
impressions of every part. Mr. Fleet, Dr. Döhler and Dr.
under their notice by myself or by my first assistant
of the three copies & far as the preparation of the Madras volumes
bearing a number other work. After receipt from the
name of the village it would be controlled and marked
is found, in vernacular case of European contributors, I would
the distance of the galley proofs of the paper with the help
Gautier, and the fore the same galley comes back from
of copper-plate from the form proof which the author subsequently
if obtainable. Other and the loss of time entailed by a
with printing ink. - print material inscriptions according
forwarded with a seal and not, as hitherto, in half or
ring and seal, the
present place of preparation if and at what rate authors
lead one to the contributions, is one which I do not feel
Photo-lithographer, it is, however, to be feared that, if the
during the printing, Dr. Burgess are suddenly abolished or
For the the undertaking might not receive
rich it deserves. I am expecting the
orders

orders of Government as to the fund considerable
available for the new publication, and it would be
with have to be respectively spent on rental or to make
of facsimiles, and authors' fees. It was founded

In conclusion I say General of the
be advantageous not to have the from 1888. Owing to
journal printed at Calcutta, but to various other
Press at Madras, which under the
of Mr R. Hill can compete with
In this case the distance between the Press has been hitherto
Press would only be one day. Sec. that Dr Burgess
possible to include in the volumes causes after the
inscriptions in Tamil, the only through the eighth and
which cannot be properly transcribed and editorship would
but for which no type is available staying from conflicting
the printing of the next volume con. Dr Burgess
once, without waiting for the con. by Professor Driller
Burgess' first volume of the Epigraphs be more

4. With reference to the General
letter from the Secretary to the Gov. Inscriptionum
I have the honour to report that
year 1890/91 the first part of 4 approx of my
of South-Indian Inscriptions (11) of the second and
was printed. The part can be epigraphia Indica, I

would

a speedy and accurate subject -
received from the the collection of epigraphical
inscriptions which at that the Archaeological Surveys
despatched ~~to me~~ send me three well inked
Indian epigraphy, stone inscription which will come
Kilthorn, or taken in the course of their tour. To one
Mr. V. Venkayya, as and be attached a slip of paper
leaves no leisure for a description of the location, the
author, the monument or near which the inscription
for the press. In the 'as and Roman characters, and
read and correct the village from the table head-
of the manuscript, before of the district. In the case
Europe. In this way then the original comes to hand,
receives, will be fairly clear three negative impressions
second form proof and may be taken on thin paper and
by obliging authors to state the condition of the
to the lines of the original - stating the condition of the
square verses. place of discovery, if known, and the
them. Of the three copies I would

The first shall be paid for their, the second eventually to the
competent to touch. I return the third for reference
payments introduced by the transcript.

considerably reduced, location of the new materials,
the warm support which

to

200-452 - u -
- Pule
- 1915/91

...mount of at

either necessary to create a new
use of the Epigraphia Indica, wh
by Dr. Burgess, the late Director
Archaeological Survey of India,
the editor's residence in Europe
causes the issue of the periodical
somewhat irregular. If, as in
of India, I am to be responsible for
publications, it will be unavoidable
connection with the Epigraphia Indica
completion of the first volume, of a
last part is now in hand. For, a
doubtless lead to new delays re
orders. The Asoka inscriptions
originally intended to have publi
in the Epigraphia Indica, could
advantageously issued as a new es
Cunningham's Vol. I of the to
Indicarum.

✱ If Government
undertaking the sole editor
subsequent volumes of the

during the time left from official work, and
am convinced that much good and useful
work in the field of epigraphical and historical
research is to be expected from him in future.

After Government had sanctioned the appointment
of two further assistants, I engaged H. Krishna
Gastu, a young Brahmin, as Kanarese Assistant
in January 1891. He is a good Sanskrit and
Kanarese scholar, and on account of his zeal
and patience, promises to master the subject
of his present studies. The appointment of a third
assistant was hitherto dispensed with, because
it was intended to choose a Telugu Brahmin,
but as copies of Telugu inscriptions had yet been
collected. As, however, it would not be desirable
to wait any longer, I intend to engage as soon as
possible a second Tamil assistant, who will find
ample materials to work on.

3. ~~I~~ With reference to paragraph 4 of the letter
from the Secretary to the Government of India, I beg to
state that I shall be very glad to take up the new duty
allotted to me, if the Government will be pleased to permit
me to do so, and request that Government might

Bangalore,

3rd July, 1891.

17 June 91/11-472/11

No. 166.

From

Dr. E. Hultsch,
Government Superintendent,



To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Dota Camund.

Sir,

With reference to G. O., dated 17th June 1891,
No. 472, Public, I have the honour to submit the
following remarks and to request that, in transmitting
them to the Government of India, a printed copy of
G. O., dated 10th June 1891, No. 452, Public, of which
I have no spare copy left, might be annexed to the
last paragraph of my letter.

2. With reference to paragraph 3 of the letter
from the Secretary to the Government of India, I have
much pleasure in reporting that my first assistant,
Mr. V. Venkayya, a Tamil Brahmin and M. A. of the
Madras University, who took up his appointment in 1887,
has proved a most docile student and effective
helpmate, of whose talents, integrity and trained
scholarship I can only speak in the highest terms.
I enclose copies of a few papers which he has compiled
during

15-8-67587-8-91

1936

From
Gen. Dyer

bill

23 July } 1891
24 }

200

Submitting remarks
on Public Sp 472 27/7 Jan
1891 reg. revision of the
pay of officers of the
Archaeological Survey.

... in a, was, or been
Photo-Lithographic Office at
the of a short tour which was
under and December 1890, and
the enclosed Progress Report for the
fiscal year.

I have the honor to be,
Your most devoted servant,

E. H. H. H.

Epigraphist.



GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper :—

G.O., dated 17th June 1891, No. 472, Public.

READ—also the following papers :—

From Dr. E. HULTZSCH, Government Epigraphist, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 3rd July 1891, No. 166.

With reference to G.O., dated 17th June 1891, No. 472, Public, I have the honour to submit the following remarks, and to request that, in transmitting them to the Government of India, a printed copy of G.O., dated 10th June 1891, No. 452, Public, of which I have no spare copy left, might be annexed to the last paragraph of my letter.

2. With reference to paragraph 3 of the letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, I have much pleasure in reporting that my First Assistant, Mr. V. Venkayya, a Tamil Brahmin and M.A. of the Madras University, who took up his appointment in 1887, has proved a most docile student and effective helpmate, of whose talents, integrity and trained scholarship I can only speak in the highest terms. I enclose copies of a few papers which he has compiled during the time left from official work, and am convinced that much good and useful work in the field of epigraphical and historical research is to be expected from him in future. After Government had sanctioned the appointment of two further assistants, I engaged H. Krishna Sastri, a young Brahmin, as Canarese Assistant in January 1891. He is a good Sanskrit and Canarese scholar, and on account of his zeal and patience, promises to master the subject of his present studies. The appointment of a third assistant was hitherto dispensed with, because it was intended to choose a Telugu Brahmin, but no copies of Telugu inscriptions had yet been collected. As, however, it would not be desirable to wait any longer, I intend to engage as soon as possible a second Tamil Assistant, who will find ample materials to work on.

3. With reference to paragraph 4 of the letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, I beg to state that I shall be very glad to take up the new duty allotted to me, if the Government will be pleased to permit me to do so, and request that the Government might be so good as to transmit the following remarks in connection with the subject to the Government of India.

As regards the collection of epigraphical materials, I suggest that the Archaeological Surveyors might be asked to send me three well-inked impressions of every stone inscription which will come under their notice in the course of their tours. To one of the three copies should be attached a slip of paper bearing a number, a description of the location, the name of the village at or near which the inscription is found in vernacular and roman characters, the distance of the village from the taluk head-quarters, and the name of the district. In the case of copper-plate inscriptions, the originals should be sent, if obtainable. Otherwise, three negative impressions with printing ink should be taken on thin paper and forwarded with a note stating the condition of the ring and seal, the place of discovery, if known, and the present place of preservation. Of the three copies I would send one to the editor, the second eventually to the photo-lithographer, and retain the third for reference during the printing of the transcript. For the publication of the new materials, to which I could

at once add a considerable amount of unpublished matter, it would be either necessary to create a new journal or to make use of the *Epigraphia Indica*, which was founded by Dr. Burgess, the late Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India, in 1888. Owing to the editor's residence in Europe and to various other causes, the issue of the periodical has been hitherto somewhat irregular. If, as intended by the Government of India, I am to be responsible for all epigraphical publications, it will be unavoidable that Dr. Burgess' connection with the *Epigraphia Indica* ceases after the completion of the first volume, of which the eighth and last part is now in hand. For a dual editorship would doubtlessly lead to new delays resulting from conflicting orders. The Aśoka inscriptions which Dr. Burgess originally intended to have published by Professor Bühler in the *Epigraphia Indica* could perhaps be more advantageously issued as a new edition of General Cunningham's Volume I of the *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*.

If Government approve of my undertaking the sole editorship of the second and subsequent volumes of the *Epigraphia Indica*, I would adopt the following system, in order to ensure a speedy and accurate publication of the materials received from the Archaeological Surveyors. Those inscriptions which deserve to be published would be at once despatched to one of the three leading authorities on Indian epigraphy, viz., Mr. Fleet, Dr. Bühler and Dr. Kielhorn, or taken up by myself or by my First Assistant, Mr. V. Venkayya, as far as the preparation of the Madras volumes leaves no leisure for other work. After receipt from the author, the manuscript would be controlled and marked for the press. In the case of European contributors, I would read and correct the galley-proof of the paper with the help of the manuscript before the same galley comes back from Europe. In this way the form-proof which the author subsequently receives will be fairly clean, and the loss of time entailed by a second form-proof avoided. Much space could be saved by obliging authors to print metrical inscriptions according to the lines of the original, and not, as hitherto, in half or quarter verses. The question if, and at what rate, authors shall be paid for their contributions, is one which I do not feel competent to touch. It is, however, to be feared that, if the payments introduced by Dr. Burgess are suddenly abolished or considerably reduced, the undertaking might not receive the warm support which it deserves. I am expecting the orders of Government as to the funds which will be available for the publication, and what portions of them will have to be respectively spent on printing, the reproduction of facsimiles, and authors' fees.

In conclusion, I suggest that it would be advantageous not to have the future volumes of the journal printed at Calcutta, but by the Government Press at Madras, which, under the able superintendence of Mr. R. Hill, can compete with any Indian press. In this case the distance between the editor and the press would only be one day. Secondly, it would be possible to include in the volumes some of the numerous inscriptions in Tamil—the only Indian character which cannot be properly transcribed in roman characters, but for which no type is available at Calcutta. Besides, the printing of the next volume could then begin at once, without waiting for the completion of Dr. Burgess' first volume of the *Epigraphia Indica*.

4. With reference to paragraph 7 of the letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, I have the honour to report that, during the official year 1890-91, the first part of the second volume of South Indian Inscriptions (119 pages quarto) was printed. The part can be issued as soon as four plates, which are to be included in it, will have been received from the photo-lithographic office at Calcutta. The results of a short tour which was undertaken in November and December 1890 are briefly touched in the enclosed progress report for the second half of the official year.

From A. REA, Esq., M.B.A.S., Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 6th July 1891, No. 273.

With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 472, Public, dated 17th June 1891, I have the honour to submit the report called for in paragraph 5 of the Government of India letter therein embodied.

2. The following is an abstract of Archæological Survey work accomplished :—

MADURA DISTRICT.

Great temple of Râmesvaram and other remains on the island of Pâmban (of the 17th century).

Great temple of Madura and other temples and palace buildings in the town (17th century).

Numbers of other temples in the district (11th century *et seq.*)

Excavation of prehistoric remains at several places around Madura and on Palni Hills near Kodaikânal.

CHINGLEPUT DISTRICT.

All the Pallava rock-cut caves, monoliths, and structures at Mâmallapuram (Seven Pagodas) and Saluvankuppam (5th to 7th century).

Pallava temples of Conjeeveram (5th century *et seq.*).

Chola temples of the district (11th century).

Excavation of prehistoric remains at Pallâvaram and other places near.

ANANTAPUR DISTRICT.

Group of remains (temples, palace, fort and tombs) at Pennakonda and other places surrounding.

Large temple of Lepakshi (16th century.)

NORTH ARCOT DISTRICT.

Great temples of Vellore, Virinjipuram, Tiruvallam and Denikapuram.

Clive's gate at Arcot.

Numbers of Chola and Jaina temples, caves, and rock-cut sculptures at other places in the district (11th and 14th to 16th century).

KISTNA DISTRICT.

Group of temples and rock-cut caves in Bezvâda, and groups of caves at Undavalli and Mogulrazapuram (7th century).

Excavation of the Buddhist stupas at Amarâvati, Jaggayapeta, Garikapad and Faringidibha (50 A.D. *et seq.*)

Chola and other temples in the taluks of Bâpatla, Narasaravupeta, Bezvâda and Krôsûr (11th century *et seq.*).

GODAVARI DISTRICT.

Survey and excavation of the extensive group of Buddhist caves and mounds at Guntapalli (150 B.C.)

Temples at Ellore, Dendaluru, Pedda Vegi and Kânavarapukota.

NELLORE DISTRICT.

The temples in Nellore town, Kanuparti, and a few other places in the east of the district (dates various).

TANJORE DISTRICT.

Great temple of Tanjore (11th century).

TRICHINOPOLY DISTRICT.

Large temple at Gangaikondacholapuram and other temples of one taluk (11th century *et seq.*)

BELLARY DISTRICT.

Extensive group of temples, palace buildings, &c., at the ancient capital town of Vijayanagar (14th to 16th century).

The finely-sculptured Chalukyan temples of the district (12th century).

GANJAM DISTRICT.

One temple.

3. As to work remaining, the following is the number of *places* (noted in Vol. I, of Sewell's *Lists of Antiquities*) where archæological remains are reported to exist :—

District.	Number of taluks.	Number of places reported to contain remains.
Ganjam	11	65
Vizagapatam	15	116
Godávári	15	171
Kistna	15	432
Kurnool	8	216
Bellary	9	204
Anantapur	7	132
Cuddapah	11	174
Nellore	13	162
North Arcot	14	290
Chingleput and Madras	6	126
Salem	10	183
South Arcot and Pondicherry	9	118
Coimbatore	10	145
Nilgiri	6	48
South Canara	6	106
Malabar	9	259
Cochin State	..	10
Travancore State	..	49
Trichinopoly	6	74
Tanjore	9	229
Madura	9	201
Tinnevelly	9	152
Total ..		3,662

order

In addition to these, there are over 600 ancient Buddhist and other mounds in the Kistna district which have since been catalogued. The three other Northern districts of Godávári, Vizagapatam and Ganjam, having been the principal places of settlement during the Buddhist period, may also be expected to contain at least a like proportional number of mounds covering the most interesting remains in the country. They have, however, not yet been catalogued, though orders have now been issued to have this done. As far as my experience goes, the lists of antiquities are very incomplete; but, on the other hand, numbers of the places entered contain buildings or other remains of no particular note, and which it is unnecessary to survey. In other cases, places may have buildings similar to others already surveyed, so that it is unnecessary to delineate them wholly, though sometimes some particular portions, such as sculptures or other details, may be worth copying. Then again, many of the places include large numbers of remains, such as Vijayanagar with over 87 important buildings of various kinds and sizes, besides numerous sculptures; and the Seven Pagodas with close on 100 caves, temples, and monoliths. Almost every town and the larger villages have each at least two temples (Saivite and Vaishnava); many of them of large size. I may note for example that the town of Kumbakónam has 16 well-sculptured temples. Conjeeveram is full of temples of considerable antiquity, chief among them being the great Siva temple; several of the others nearly approach it in size and profusion of sculptural detail. Over 283 inscriptions have been noted in this town, but this does not complete the list.

The Madras Presidency contains numbers of immense temples exceeding in size any found in other parts of India, and a wealth of artistic ornament is scattered among them. The great temples specially noted by Dr. Fergusson in his *History of Indian and Eastern Architecture* may be mentioned; they are those at Tiruvallúr, Srirangam, Chillumbaram, Tinnevelly, Kumbakónam, Conjeeveram, Peroor, Tanjore, Madura, Vellore and Rámesvaram. The last four have been surveyed, the others are

still to do. As example of their extent, I may state that the last named covers ground measuring 868 feet by 672 feet. Those specially noted are among the first of the great South Indian temples, but there are large numbers of others which nearly approach them in size and architectural value.

4. As to the time necessary to finish the survey of the archæological remains of the Presidency, I would point out that, with such great numbers of varied remains spread over such a vast extent of country, and with a comparatively limited working staff, an estimate of the time necessary to finish even the most important of them can only be approximate. It would probably take about ten years to do so. To make complete survey of one of the largest temples, such as Ramesvaram, takes over two months. The exploration of the Buddhist mounds in the Kistna district alone, which doubtless cover numbers of valuable marble sculptures and inscriptions of the earliest date, would itself take several years. There are in addition the un-noted mounds in the three Northern districts. The district of Ganjam, among other places, is an entirely unexplored field, with a style of architecture peculiarly its own. Then again, a great majority of the remains in this Presidency have not been examined or even seen by any one capable of judging of the amount of work which may be required to survey them, so that an accurate computation of the time necessary is almost impossible.

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Madras,
to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 8th July 1891,
No. 281.

With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., dated 17th June 1891, No. 472, Public,
I have the honour to forward a report of work done during the year 1890-91:—

MADURA.

The survey of the ancient remains in Madura was continued up to the middle of April 1890. The following are the buildings included:—The great temple, Tirumala Naick's choultry or Puthu Mandapa, Teppakulam, and Tirumala Naick's palace now used as a court and public offices. The usual necessary drawings were made. These include a large plan of the entire structure; a sectional drawing taken across the whole length of the temple, showing the various shrines, mandapas, and six of the lofty gopuras, each covered from base to summit with sculptured figures. The various other drawings were selected so as best to show the architecture and sculpture. A set of photographs was also taken.

ALLAGARKOIL.

About 12 miles north of Madura, standing at the base of some hills, are some extensive and interesting ancient remains. They are enclosed in a fortified courtyard, extending over 2,200 feet by 1,200 feet. The principal buildings are those attached to a temple, itself surrounded by a court measuring over 273 feet by 156 feet. The temple buildings generally belong to the same date as the inner structures of the Madura temple. Two curious round grain towers, named Ramakalanjiyam and Latch-manakalanjiyam, stand in one of the courts. The principal shrine is of earlier date than the others, and is of unusual plan, being a circular chamber with a circular prakaram round it, and an ante-chamber in front.

In the bedchamber for the images is a rare and antique bedstead measuring about 12 feet by 10 feet on plan, and about 15 feet high. It has a pedestal of sculptured blackstone, inlaid with small ivory figures, supporting four carved blackstone pillars ornamented with small detached shafts and figures in ivory. The roof or canopy is a coloured wooden frame work, also elaborately inlaid with ivory sculpture. All the ivory work is carved in most intricate and minute designs. The bed is as unique as it is interesting. It is stated to have been the gift of Tirumala Naick, whose statue stands at the entrance. Owing to the darkness and smallness of the chamber, no photograph could be taken; but drawings were made.

Outside the large east gopura is an interesting collection of swords and bill-hooks (Tam., rutharuvakkal) of all sizes from 2 feet 4 inches to 12 feet; clubs (Tam., kethaikal), and tridents or spears (Tam., sulangal). The temple is resorted to by certain of the Kallans, and these are among their offerings. From the branches of a tree outside hang some small cradles, offerings from people whose prayers for offspring have been answered.

In the fortified courtyard adjacent to the temple, quite a small town has evidently once existed. The main street leading up to the temple can be distinctly traced with its lines of mounds on each side. Everything is now completely deserted,—due probably to the feverishness of the locality. All the buildings are of the date of Tirumala Naick, by whose benefactions they seem to have been built.

Near the temple are the extensive remains of a palace (Tirumala Naick's), with pillared corridors, and lofty domed halls in the style of the Madura palace. The domes are all fractured, and great portions of them have fallen. The temple here is even yet considered a sacred one, and the king would use the palace as his place of residence when on pilgrimage to the shrine, or when he wished to retire from the turmoil of State affairs at the capital. A smaller mahal stands some distance down the street. It would probably be used by the king's officers of state.

A number of small shrines and open mandapas with many finely-sculptured, life-size figures, stand at other parts of the street. Some of these statues are, as in the Puthu Mandapa at Madura, pointed out as those of Tirumala Naick and his wives. Various other ruins stand inside the large courtyard.

On the hills above are two Vasantha mandapas, in connection with the temple, from which a stream of clear, cool water continually flows down the mountain side, and passes by a cut channel through the large temple.

All the buildings have been much ruined by the vegetation which covers them. Proposals for the preservation of these interesting remains have since been made.

By the side of the road from Madura to Allagarkoil a number of rest-houses or mandapas for pilgrims stand at intervals. They are of similar date to the temple, and would doubtless be much used in former times when the shrine was a more important one than it is now-a-days.

Plans and other drawings, photographs, and a map of the entire remains, have been made.

NORTH ARCOT AND MADURA DISTRICTS.

On returning from Madura, the staff remained at head quarters till the end of June. Survey operations were conducted during the months of July, August and September. At the request of the Jaghirdar of Arni, I visited the village of Devikapuram, in the Arni jaghire, and inspected and surveyed the large and ancient temples there. A halt was made at Arcot, and drawings made of the "Delhi Gate" of the Fort.

The other members of the staff who had not accompanied me to North Arcot had gone to Madura to resume the survey of the palace and temples. Proceeding to Madura, I saw to the completion of this work, and then made a tour through parts of the Madura district. Two ancient temples at Devipatnam were surveyed. Kilakarai was visited and the remains on the beach inspected; but little could be accomplished for want of coolies. It does not appear, however, that much could be brought to light by digging, as the surface indications would seem to show that all the buildings which formerly existed had been constructed of mud. Small beads found in number among this material indicate that the inhabitants had been low castes; and numbers of worn pieces of pearl oyster shells might point to their having been pearl fishers; one small, old, corroded pearl was got among these. It seems that gold and silver coins are occasionally picked up, but they all find their way to the goldsmith, and I could get none of them. I got a number of copper coins, among which was a Roman one. The coins generally are much the same as those found at Māmalapuram near Madras.

At Ramesvaram, I gained some interesting information on the ceremonies performed by pilgrims while on their journey to and at the shrine. I inspected the sacred bathing-place of Dhanishkodi, at present situated at the end of a long strip of sand about 15 miles south-east of Ramesvaram. It is considered sacred as being the meeting place of the waters of the two seas—Mahothathi on the north, and Rathnakaram on the south. Though this bathing-place is of very early date, there are no ancient buildings at the present site; and on inquiries, I learned that the sea is receding at this point and the land has advanced at the rate of about five miles in the last 40 years. A narrow strip of shallow water separates the present Dhanishkodi from an island about 15 miles long, and when this silts up, as it is steadily doing, the pilgrims will have to travel other 15 miles to the meeting of the waters. This being the case, any ancient buildings must be looked for nearer Ramesvaram where the original bathing place was first situated. Several places were pointed out where bathing had formerly taken place, but which are now sanded up. The most ancient of these is at Mundrayar chattram about seven miles from Ramesvaram, where I found a small deserted and very ancient shrine of Setumudramalingaswami. This seems to have been the original site of Dhanishkodi, and bathing at one time took place close in front of the shrine.

The other buildings surveyed during this portion of the tour were the large temple at Tiruppurankunram and the finely-sculptured temple at Kovilpati.

During the last three months of the year 1890, inking work was carried on at head-quarters. The drawings finished were principally from the Anantapur and Bellary districts. I was engaged writing a report on the same places. A large roll of other drawings from Vijayanagar was completed, and sent to Dr. Burgess, to accompany a report which had been previously forwarded. A number of drawings was also sent to Calcutta for the Technical Art series, and eight sheets were selected.

Thereafter, the staff went into camp at Tanjore, and began the survey of the great temple there. The temple dates from the 11th century, and is the most ancient of the important large temples of Southern India. On the completion of the survey of the Tanjore temple, I visited the large temple at Avadayarkoil, which was said to be famed for its splendid carvings. Some of these are very fine, and I intend to make a partial survey at a future date. On my return from Avadayarkoil, I proceeded, *via* Kumbakonam, to Gangaikondacholapuram, whose temple it was considered necessary to survey on account of its unique character, and through its being contemporaneous with the temple at Tanjore. The work done here includes a complete set of drawings, photographs and copies of the inscriptions. Some mounds there were also inspected. They have never been explored, and though excavation might show interesting results, yet, as the ancient floors are six feet below the present surface of the surrounding ground, the work would be expensive.

Some drawings were made at the large temple of Karukaikavalapparkoil near Gangaikondacholapuram.

I visited the following places in the Udayarpalaiyam taluk:—

At Jayankondacholapuram, sketches of some Jaina images were made, and notes taken of the traditional history.

The temple at Kamarasavalli was partially surveyed, and other antiquities noted.

Some very ancient temples at Kirparavur, and a beautifully-carved Chola temple at Melparavur, were inspected for future survey. The latter temple is of archaic design, and has a large amount of fine sculpture cut in blackstone. Among these are some minutely-carved piers resting on couchant lions, similar in design to those in the more ornate caves at the Seven Pagodas. They are specially worthy of delineation. In the building are many good subjects for casts in plaster. There are a number of archaic inscriptions on the walls.

The temple at Tirumalavadi is a large building with architecture resembling in part the temple at Tanjore. There are long lines of Chola inscriptions on the walls. This temple will be afterwards surveyed.

With reference to G.O., No. 19, Public, of 9th January 1891, the temple at Kontiagod, in the Ganjam district, was surveyed and the inscriptions copied. The building is in the Orissan style of architecture, and has characteristics entirely different from that found in the Dravidian architecture of South India.

By permission of Government, a draughtsman underwent a course of instruction in the taking of plaster casts at the School of Arts. The survey will thus be in a position to supply the School of Arts, or such other public institutions as may require them, casts of the best examples of indigenous art, for the instruction of technical or other art students.

The Amaravati and other marbles which I excavated some time ago arrived in the Madras Museum.

A revised list of ancient monuments selected for conservation was in course of preparation towards the close of the official year.

ORDER—dated 7th August 1891, No. 675, Public.

The reports read above will be communicated to the Government of India, with the intimation that the Government agrees in the remarks made in paragraph 3 of Dr. Hultzsch's letter.

(True Extract.).

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Government Epigraphist.
„ Superintendent, Archaeological Survey.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Gobt. of {1891} Madras.
PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 7th August 1891, No. 675.

AUGUST.

Archæology and Epigraphy.

Directing that certain reports containing the information called for by the Government of India in letter, No. 1095—27-5, dated 27th May 1891, in connection with —, be forwarded to that Government.