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Archaeology

Regarding the pro-
gress report on Ar-
chaeological survey opera-
tions conducted during
the last quarter of
the year 1891-92—

1998/92
Public G.O. ⁵⁴⁰ 4/8/92

Govt. of {1892} Madras.
PUBLIC.

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G.O., 18th June 1892, No. 423.

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JUNE.

Archæology.

Recording the progress report on Archæological
Survey operations conducted during the last
quarter of the year 1891-92.

(5) *Kondamudi.*

Seventeen miles west by north of Répalle. In the centre of the village is a low open mound measuring about 40 feet across and 6 feet high. It is surrounded by houses. Its section is seen at some places where it has been dug into. The earth is black mud, mixed with pottery and layers of ashes at different levels. It forms the summit of the rising ground on which the village is built. About twenty years ago the ground for some considerable space around it was of the same height, but the mud has gradually been removed from all sides for use on the fields and the cleared ground built on. It is the last remaining portion of the higher ground of the ancient village-site.

(6) *Maṇḍara.*

Fifteen miles north-west of Répalle. The Pati dibba is a low mound of black mud and broken pottery in the centre of the village. It measures about 150 feet across. It is an ancient village-site.

(7) *Mōrakūṇa.*

Eighteen miles north-west by west of Répalle. The Kaṇḍepati dibba is a deserted village-site covering about an acre of ground, about half-a-mile to the south of the village. The earth is black and mixed with fragments of pottery. Copper, lead, and occasionally gold and silver coins are found after rain.

(8) *Mūlpūru.*

Fourteen miles north-west of Répalle. The Pati dibba is a mound in the village similar to that at Kondamudi.

(9) *Peracali.*

Eleven miles north-west of Répalle. The Jains dibba in the village is a mound like that at Mūlpūru.

(10) *Pinapāḍa.*

Nineteen miles north-west by north of Répalle. The Mallipati dibba is a deserted village-site near the parchari on the south of the village. It is about a hundred yards square. It has been extensively dug into for brickmaking and encroached on by the surrounding fields, so that its original extent must have been greater. The soil is that usually found on such sites. It is said "that about three years ago" some gold jewelry was found here by some one who was removing earth for the roads.

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ORDER—dated 18th June 1892, No. 423, Public.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Superintendent, Archaeological Survey.
„ the Superintendent, Central Museum.
„ Dr. E. Hultzsch, Government Epigraphist.
„ all Collectors.

Copy to the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, London.
„ the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, Ceylon Branch.
„ the Secretary, Royal Institute of British Architects,
9, Conduit Street, Hanover Square, London, W.
„ the President, Asiatic Society, Bengal.
„ the Secretary, Madras Literary Society.
„ R. Sewell, Esq., Madras Civil Service.
„ Dr. J. Burgess, C.I.E., care of India Office.
„ V. A. Smith, Esq., Bengal Civil Service.
„ Dr. Rost, Librarian, India Office.
„ A. C. MacDonald, Esq., Deputy Keeper of the Indian Institute, Oxford.
„ J. F. Fleet, Esq., B.O. C.S., C.I.E., Acting Commissioner, S.D., Bombay.
„ Dr. G. Oppert, Madras.
„ the Archaeological Commissioner for Ceylon.
„ Henry Cousens, Esq., Superintendent, Archaeological Survey of Western India, Poona.
„ Rev. Dr. W. Miller, C.I.E., Principal, Christian College, Madras.
„ Professor G. Bühler, L.L.D., C.I.E., 22, Stefanie Gasse Ober Döbling, Vienna.
„ Pandit Natesa Sastri, M.F.E.S.

Editors' Table.

Esd. A. Raitt.

III.—BHATTIPROLU.

In my letter, No. 97, dated 22nd February 1892, I gave an account of the inscribed caskets and other relics which had been found in the centre of the dome of the stūpa.^(a) Some trenches were dug at points around the exterior of the building. The brick basement or procession path at the south-east quadrant is unbroken; but no marble slabs remain against it. The face of the dome also at this point remains intact for a height of over 5 feet. A trench radiating outwards, found the brick floor outside the basement, and the lower courses of a wall; but only some chips of marble were picked up at the position of the rail. At the position of the north-east quadrant, the brick flooring between the basement and the rail remains. The basement itself has been removed, and a considerable portion of the brick-work of the dome inside the line of it. The mound which covers the remains of the central building is surrounded by another ring of mound on every side except the east. This outer ring is the earth thrown up during some of the previous excavations. On the north side, two parallel trenches were carried outwards from the position of the basement through this outer bank. These trenches were then connected by a cross cut. At this point some courses of the basement and of the north projection remain in position. I found here two pieces of a marble umbrella having a curve with a radius of 1 foot 6 inches; a small piece of a pilaster base from a slab; a pilaster capital with horses and riders; and the half of what has been a large slab carved with the lower portion of a draped figure. At a distance of 8 feet 4 inches from the basement, I found the remains of six marble bases of the rail standing in position. They measure 1 foot 11 inches by 12 inches, by 1 foot 10 inches in height, with a space between each of 1 foot 7 inches. Some of them have a portion of the lower disc-shaped socket hole for the rail panel. They are sunk 1 foot 6 inches below the brick floor and rest on a broad slab of marble laid longitudinally below them. Outside is a low brick wall. The ground was opened up for a few feet around these, but none others were seen there, nor any of the large panels which would surmount the rail. Similar trenches were dug on the west side, but though some courses of the basement remain, and several small plain slabs, splayed on one edge, were found outside it, no trace of the rail appeared. On the south, digging could not be carried out on account of the proximity of a tank.

The space between the rail piers is about half that of Amarāvati, and I think the panels can hardly have been carved like those from that stūpa. They have probably been of plain lenticular shape like those at Sanchi. It is difficult to believe that all the large top panels—which would be sculptured—have gone: some must surely be lying under the earth bank outside the position of the rail. The figure panel is checked on one side with a pilaster up its edge, and the portion of the drapery that remains is but slightly raised from the surface. The carving is in the same archaic style as in those from the stūpas at Jaggayyapōta and Garikapād.

These indications would seem to show that only the panels at the four cardinal projections of the basement were sculptured. The line of slabs which surrounded, and which were removed from the face of the basement, would be plain, with the exception of a pilaster up one edge of each. That these panels, and not those of the rail, were the marbles removed and broken up for use on the canal, seems certain. An old maistry and others who removed these stones stated that they were plain slabs, about 4 feet square, standing with their tops about a yard under-ground. They had been removed from all around the wall. On seeing the portion of the south-east basement uncovered, they recognized it as the position these slabs had occupied. These particulars agree with the depth of the basement underground and the size of the slab now found. The portion of the rail also uncovered shows that such slabs could not have been used in its construction.

(2) *Chinna lañja dibba.*

Immediately on the east of the stūpa is the camping tope. It is a slightly-raised piece of ground known as Chinna lañja dibba. From the name, and the presence of bricks in the soil, it has probably been the site of a Buddhist building. A legend is current to the effect that a dancing girl had her residence here: the large mound was the temple where she worshipped. There is also a story of a "treasure" having been found many years ago at some spot in it, and a stone box or casket similar to the large ones recently taken from the centre of the large stūpa.

3. *Vikramārka kōṭa dibba.*

On the east outskirts of the village is a piece of ground under cultivation and planted with mimosa trees. It is known by the above name, and is said to have been the site of the fort of the king who ruled here. A long, low mound—one of the walls of the fort—can be traced for some distance. Large bricks were found while it was being dug into some "thirty years ago."

^(a) The six large stones of the caskets have been deposited in the Madras Museum. The inscriptions are of the first importance, as they present a new type of the Asoka alphabet. Some of the letters differ remarkably in details from the Asoka alphabet hitherto known.

IV.—ANCIENT SITES IN THE REPALLE TALUK.

All the sites in this taluk included in the catalogue of Kistna mounds have been examined and notes of them are given below.* The whole of these are ancient village sites. Only a few of them have remains of brick or stone buildings; thus showing that the houses had been constructed of mud. In general, only those which show traces of buildings of interest should be dug into; as where these exist, they act as a guide where to dig and may show whether objects of interest are likely to be found. The popular idea among the people of these districts, that mounds covering the remains of Buddhist buildings are store-houses of treasure, is a myth. These buildings, it is almost needless to say, were temples built to enshrine a relic, which also may have had placed along with it some articles of no great intrinsic value. Treasure would not and has never been found in such places, yet it is widely believed in. This idea is one of the causes which have led to the complete demolition of so many of these stūpas. It must have arisen through exaggerated accounts of golden or other relics which have been found inside them. The mound at Bhattiprolu was believed to contain five crores, the amount being estimated from the fact of a five-headed Naga having once been discovered.† The search for, and finding of the recently-discovered relics, caused great interest and excitement, even in distant villages, and crowds came and visited the place while the work was proceeding, and discussed the inscribed caskets after they were brought out. Most of those who were not present when the articles were brought to the surface went away convinced that a great treasure had just been dug out. There seems reason to believe that there is much treasure buried in the Kistna district, but it is in secret places, or in places which were once secret, but are now exposed. Such are the sites or foundations of houses which have become ruined or completely razed. These may be found by chance ploughing or digging as at Buddhāni, or as with the find of Roman coins lately made. Numbers of small antique articles of interest must be often found by those digging into these village-sites for earth for brickmaking or other purposes, but their finds are almost invariably kept secret. An instance is the small brass articles from Bauddha vanam at Ghantasālā. The chances are, however, against anything that might be found in such sites repaying the outlay—a systematic search for it by digging. It is not under every house that treasure is buried, or, if so placed, that it is left there when the house is deserted or destroyed. In places where coins are found scattered about after rain, good results may be obtained by the use of sieves.

* G.O., dated 29th May 1889, No. 462, P.
† Boswell's report—G.O., dated 14th December 1871, No. 2108.

1) *Anantapuram.*

Fifteen miles north by west of Répalle. Yelalapādu dibba is a piece of waste ground, over an acre in extent, among the fields on the south of the village. The soil is black mud, and has been extensively dug into for brickmaking. The earth is thickly mixed with broken pottery and bones of animals. There are no traces of buildings visible on the surface, or in the pits dug by the brickmakers. It is an ancient village-site.

(2) *Buddhāni.*

Eighteen miles west by south of Répalle. Jains dibba is the name given to an ancient village-site, over a portion of which the present village is built. The soil is black mud, mixed with broken pottery. Several years ago some copper Buddhist images were found.‡ The spot pointed out is now cultivated as a garden. In it lies a plain white marble-pier. Adjoining it is a piece of vacant ground with a number of large circular pits dug all over it. Some of these are for storing grain, and others to supply earth for the fields. They have been dug to an extra depth in search of treasure; but nothing, so far as I can learn, was ever found. The earth is mixed with bricks and broken pottery.

‡ Sewell's Lists, p. 78.

(3) *Chandavola.*

Fifteen miles west of Répalle. A large mound on the north of the village, which it has been thought might cover the remains of some ancient building, is a Muhammadan burying-ground, and covered all over with gravestones. No examination of what it may contain can therefore be made. On the south of the village is a low mound running east and west for a quarter of a mile. It is known as Kōṭa dibba and is said to be the remains of a fort. Broken pottery and bricks are found when the earth is disturbed. When any digging is done by the roadside or in the house-yards of the village, pillars and other stones are occasionally turned up. An immense treasure in gold was found at some considerable depth underground when the canal was being cut. It was discovered by chance, as in most cases of treasure-finding, and had probably been buried under a house which had become ruined and its site ploughed over.

(4) *Chandura.*

Nineteen miles north-west of Répalle. Uppala dibba is a small salt mound by the side of the village near the canal.

two pieces of yellow crystal;
two bits of gold leaf, one of them cut as a flower with eight petals, and some bits of a mineral like that found in the third casket at Bhattiprôlu (seemingly silicate) (a).

The small well in the centre of the stûpa gradually increased in size, till at 13 feet from the surface it was 2 feet 6 inches square. For the lower half of that depth, it was filled with clay. The well there was closed with a brick. From that point, down to the foundations—26 feet from the summit of the mound—the well was 9 inches and 12 inches square, each alternate course. No other relics were found. Below the foundations, the soil is sand. A number of the marble sculptures and inscriptions which have been removed from the stûpa were found in this and other villages. Drawings of them have been made.

Those at Ghantāsālā are—

A pier carved with a throne and chakra, and four other pieces of piers at Polimêra dibba.
A pier carved with lotus flowers and other ornament, standing under a tree at Bauddha vanam.

A plain pier near the south parchari.

A carved and inscribed (Pali and old Telugu) pier in the Siva temple.

Square-moulded base in a Brahman pujâri's house near the Siva temple.

Circular base carved with horses, elephants and other animals at a well.

Moulded circular base in the Siva temple.

Umbrella in a Brahman pujâri's house near the Siva temple.

Panel with rail and figures in the Siva temple.

Large slab carved with the representation of a stûpa standing by the roadside near the Siva temple.

Portion of a slab with pilaster and a base in a field near the south-east boundary.

In the Siva temple are four marbles with modern carvings of Hindu deities.

At the village of Râmanagaram is a large, finely-sculptured slab which was taken from this stûpa. In the centre is a tree with a throne at its base, with worshippers and others mounted on elephants grouped around. At a house in Devarakôta is a large plain slab, and a circular base. The numbers of other marbles which must have existed have all disappeared, and were most probably broken up for lime.

(2) Other Remains in and near Ghantāsālā.

Bauddha vanam or Dharma kôta is an ancient site, now a piece of waste ground, near the parchari on the extreme northern boundary of the village. Pits have been dug at places by the villagers for mud. In these holes are numbers of large bricks. Other objects are occasionally found by the diggers. In the Siva temple at Ghantāsālā is an ancient brass dipa with a Telugu inscription, and a small brass image of Siva, which were found here. A small chakra and a trisûla, each with a pillar base, were dug out of the same place a short time ago. These two last were purchased from the finders.

At the south-west of the parchari on the south boundary of the village is a low mound named Polimêradibba. Some loose bricks appear on the surface, but it has been so much demolished that it is impossible now to ascertain what building has been there. Some marble piers from the stûpa are fixed on it as boundary posts. Near it are some earth pits, which show courses of brickwork at two feet below the surface.

On the south, just over the village boundaries, and situated within those of Devarakôta is a low mound on the banks of a tank. It measures about 70 feet across, and is roughly circular in shape. Brick walls appear at places, and brick debris lie all over it. It has been very much demolished.

(3) Sriakûlâm.

A village in the Tsallâpalli Zemindâri, standing on the banks of the Krishna river, about 19 miles west from Masulipatam. It is mentioned as being the site of the first capital of the Andhra dynasty.* The present village is

entirely modern. There is a large temple, which is considered very sacred. It is stated to have been founded by Anantapâla, prime minister of Sumati Mahârâja, by whom is meant Simuka, the first of the Andhra dynasty. No part of the present structure is so ancient. The earliest is the shrine, which dates from the 11th century. Later grants were made by the Vijayanagar kings and others. A large entrance gôpura was built only a few years ago. In front of the temple is a large tank constructed by one of the Zemindârs of Devarakôta. No traces of the ancient town are visible. It is said to have been destroyed by shifting of the river channel. Its site is now in the bed of the river. A temple of a much earlier date than the present one is stated to have stood there.

(a) These two caskets with their contents have been handed to the Collector of the Kistna district, on behalf of the Zemindâr of Devarakôta, whose property the mound is, and with whose permission the excavation was carried out.

II.—GHANTASALA.

A village in the Tsallâpalli Zemindâri, 13 miles west of Masulipatam. In the fields on the north-east of the village, is a mound known as Lanja dibba. It is about 112 feet in diameter and 23 feet in height. Brickwalls and black mud appear on the surface. The cultivated fields extend close up to, and in parts encroach on the slope of the mound. On the north-west side, part of a palmyra tope grows on the lower part of it. The excavations recently carried out show the mound to contain the remains of a stûpa, with a rather curious plan. The upper part of the building is away, but the plan showing the arrangement of the walls remains complete (Plate I). In the centre is a cube of solid brickwork 10 feet square. Enclosing it is a hollow chamber measuring 19 feet square, with walls 3 feet 4 inches thick. Outside it is a circular wall 3 feet 6 inches thick, and 55 feet 10 inches in exterior diameter. Outside it again is another ring of brickwork which has formed the main outer wall of the structure; it is 18 feet 3 inches thick. On its exterior surface are remains of the chumam facing of the wall. Its diameter is 111 feet. Around the base of this wall is a raised circular basement or procession path, 5 feet 7 inches broad and 4 feet 6 inches high; opposite each of the four cardinal points is the projection usually found on South Indian stûpas. Outside the base, and now from 4 to 6 feet underground, are remains of a brick flooring. The two central squares are connected by walls 2 feet 4 inches thick which run out from the centre and corners parallel to their sides. From the points where these cross walls touch the inner circular wall, they radiate outwards from the centre. The cells or hollow chambers formed by these different walls crossing each other are filled with firmly-packed black mud. The difference in the thickness of the walls is noticeable, and might show that the squares and circles—which are thicker than the others—were carried up as main walls to form storeys. They may, of course, as with the cross walls, have been simply added to strengthen the dome, if the exterior wall was carried up in that form. Only a portion of the central masonry, sufficient to show the plan of the whole, was laid clear. This is indicated by the shaded lines on the sketch of the plan. From the position of the walls excavated, the remainder of this part of the design is evident, and is also confirmed by the traces appearing on the other parts of the surface of the mound.

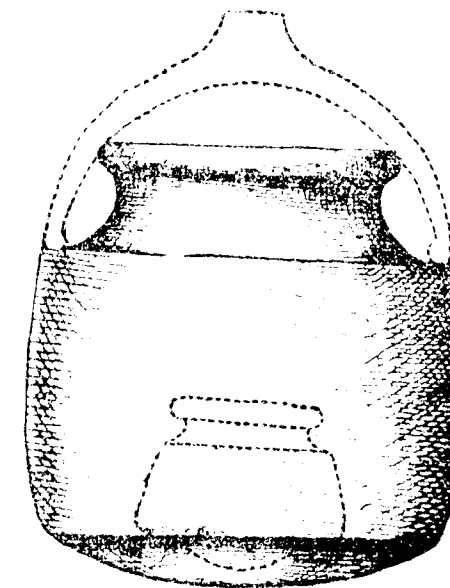


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

in height, with a diameter of 2½ inches (Fig. 2).

two small pieces of bone, or coral (?);
one white hexagonal crystal bead, ⅜ inch long;
five small round beads;
one flat mother-of-pearl bead;
six small pearls;

A trench was carried around the face of the basement, to ascertain if any marble slabs remained in position; but none were so. A marble slab carved with the Sripâda or sacred feet of Buddha, a piece of a carved top rail panel, and a number of plain slabs were found near the south projection. The basement wall is unbroken, except on the east side, and leans forward at a considerable angle. The projection on the north side is nearly complete; on the south a few of the lower courses remain; on the east, it is entirely away; and of that on the west, a few traces remain. A shaft was sunk in the centre of the brickwork. At a depth of 3 feet from the summit was a small well, 9 inches square, filled with earth; the brickwork above it was solid. Among the earth at the top of the well were pieces of a broken chatti, and the following articles which had apparently at one time been inside it:—a small lead coin ⅜ inch square, a pentagonal blue and white crystal bead ⅜ inch long and three small beads. Scattered around—and which had evidently been placed with the same purpose as were the gold flowers around the small caskets at Bhattiprôlu—was a quantity of red, white and blue pieces of crystal. Just below these was a small circular red earthenware chatti, 4½ inches in diameter and height (Fig. 1). It has a semi-circular lid with a small knob on the top. It was filled with fine black earth. In the bottom was a small glazed chatti made of a material resembling stoneware. It is 1½ inch

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 10th May 1892, No. 210.

I have the honour to submit a progress report on Archaeological Survey operations conducted during the last quarter of the year 1891-92.

2. Excavations have been carried out at the Buddhist stūpas of Gudivāda, Bhattiprôlu and Ghantaśālā, in the Kistna district. All the catalogued mounds in the Répalle taluk have been inspected, and notes of them made.

3. The Dutch tombs at Masulipatam have been inspected. Drawings have been made of the cemetery and the most interesting of the Dutch tombs at Pulicat.

4. While passing through Bezwāda, the Head Draughtsman observed some excavation being made at a house near the Siva temple. The diggers had found at some three feet from the surface a curious monolithic pillar over 6 feet in height, with four Jain figures grouped around, and a triple umbrella over each. I wrote to the Collector to see if it could not be secured for the Museum.

ENCLOSURE.

I.—GUDIVADA.

The taluk head-quarters, 20 miles north-north-west of Masulipatam. The remains of the demolished Buddhist stūpa stand in a low mound named Lanja dibba in the centre of the village. The ground measures about 140 feet square. On the west and south are roads and on the two other sides house-yards enclosed by mud walls built on the slope of the mound. I dug in three narrow trenches at different points and found the rough faces of a solid brick wall at each. The edge of the existing brickwork is close up to the boundaries of the ground, but in its present condition it is impossible to ascertain how much further out the unbroken wall may have extended. The foundations are 3 feet below the level of the surrounding ground level, and the brickwork is from 9 to 11 feet in height. Traces of courses of circular rings of bricks appear all over the centre of the mound, showing that the dome had been constructed of solid brickwork like that at Bhattiprôlu. Four relic caskets seem to have been found during the demolition.* From inquiries on the spot, these appear to have occupied similar positions to those recently discovered at the stūpa above referred to. From Mr. Sewell's description, they must have been made of stone slabs like that found in the upper part of the dome of the Bhattiprôlu stūpa. Though the dome had been greatly demolished, there seemed a probability that marble slabs or portions of a rail might exist around its position, underground, as at Amarāvati and elsewhere; but the condition of the mound shows that they must have been all removed.

* Sewell.
Report in G.O., No. 1620, of 1st November 1878, p. 33.
Lists, Vol. 1, p. 52.

2. On the west of the village is a rising piece of ground known as Lāmapādu dibba, the site of the ancient village and fort. Long, low ridges of earth, each about a quarter of a mile in length, can be indistinctly traced; these form a large square, and mark the position of the walls of the fort. The enclosed ground was occupied by the village, which is said to have been a place of importance in the transport of grain between Bezwāda and Ellore. Large numbers of finely-made beads of various material and Buddhist lead coins are found by the villagers after rain. I secured 120 of the latter. They are round and square, and have the lion, dāgoba and other emblems of the Andhra dynasty; some few have legible inscriptions. They are similar to those found at Amarāvati. Fragments of sepulchral urns and grain jars of massive pottery are numerous, and large bricks are turned up in places.

Sketches were made of the fine Jaina image which now stands in the temple.

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*Proof sent for approval of
address lines. Diagram will
be printed when proof returns.*

22/6

18TH JUNE 1892, No. 423, PUBLIC.

Note

For the treasure

left to in page

under Public Department

*Please see remarks
below opposite
the address.*

23/6

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Sketches were made of the fine Jaina image which now stands in the temple.

II.—GHANTASALA.

A village in the Tsallāpalli Zemindāri, 13 miles west of Masulipatam. In the fields on the north-east of the village, is a mound known as Lañja dibba. It is about 112 feet in diameter and 23 feet in height. Brickwalls and black mud appear on the surface. The cultivated fields extend close up to, and in parts encroach on the slope of the mound. On the north-west side, part of a palmyra tope grows on the lower part of it. The excavations recently carried out show the mound to contain the remains of a stūpa, with a rather curious plan. The upper part of the building is away, but the plan showing the arrangement of the walls remains complete (Plate 1). In the centre is a cube of solid brickwork 10 feet square. Enclosing it is a hollow chamber measuring 19 feet square, with walls 3 feet 4 inches thick. Outside it is a circular wall 3 feet 6 inches thick, and 55 feet 10 inches in exterior diameter. Outside it again is another ring of brickwork which has formed the main outer wall of the structure; it is 18 feet 3 inches thick. On its exterior surface are remains of the chunam facing of the wall. Its diameter is 111 feet. Around the base of this wall is a raised circular basement or procession path, 5 feet 7 inches broad and 4 feet 6 inches high; opposite each of the four cardinal points is the projection usually found on South Indian stūpas. Outside the base, and now from 4 to 6 feet underground, are remains of a brick flooring. The two central squares are connected by walls 2 feet 4 inches thick which run out from the centre and corners parallel to their sides. From the points where these cross walls touch the inner circular wall, they radiate outwards from the centre. The cells or hollow chambers formed by these different walls crossing each other are filled with firmly-packed black mud. The difference in the thickness of the walls is noticeable, and might show that the squares and circles—which are thicker than the others—were carried up as main walls to form storeys. They may, of course, as with the cross walls, have been simply added to strengthen the dome, if the exterior wall was carried up in that form. Only a portion of the central masonry, sufficient to show the plan of the whole, was laid clear. This is indicated by the shaded lines on the sketch of the plan. From the position of the walls excavated, the remainder of this part of the design is evident, and is also confirmed by the traces appearing on the other parts of the surface of the mound.

A trench was carried around the face of the basement, to ascertain if any marble slabs remained in position; but none were so. A marble slab carved with the Sripāda or sacred feet of Buddha, a piece of a carved top rail panel, and a number of plain slabs were found near the south projection. The basement wall is unbroken, except on the east side, and leans forward at a considerable angle. The projection on the north side is nearly complete; on the south a few of the lower courses remain; on the east, it is entirely away; and of that on the west, a few traces remain. A shaft was sunk in the centre of the brickwork. At a depth of 3 feet from the summit was a small well, 9 inches square, filled with earth; the brickwork above it was solid. Among the earth at the top of the well were pieces of a broken chatti, and the following articles which had apparently at one time been inside it:—a small lead coin $\frac{3}{8}$ ths inch square, a pentagonal blue and white crystal bead $\frac{2}{16}$ ths inch long and three small beads. Scattered around—and which had evidently been placed with the same purpose as were the gold flowers around the small caskets at Bhattiprōlu—was a quantity of red, white and blue pieces of crystal. Just below these was a small circular red earthenware chatti, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and height (Fig. 1). It has a semi-circular lid with a small knob on the top. It was filled with fine black earth. In the bottom was a small glazed chatti made of a material resembling stoneware. It is $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch

in height, with a diameter of $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches (Fig. 2). In it are—
two small pieces of bone, or coral (?);
one white hexagonal crystal bead, $\frac{5}{8}$ inch long;
five small round beads;
one flat mother-of-pearl bead;
six small pearls;

two pieces of yellow crystal;
two bits of gold leaf, one of them cut as a flower with eight petals, and some bits of a mineral like that found in the third casket at Bhattiprōlu (seemingly silicate) (a).

The small well in the centre of the stūpa gradually increased in size, till at 13 feet from the surface it was 2 feet 6 inches square. For the lower half of that depth, it was filled with clay. The well there was closed with a brick. From that point, down to the foundations—26 feet from the summit of the mound—the well was 9 inches and 12 inches square, each alternate course. No other relics were found. Below the foundations, the soil is sand. A number of the marble sculptures and inscriptions which have been removed from the stūpa were found in this and other villages. Drawings of them have been made.

Those at Ghantāsālā are—

- A pier carved with a throne and chakra, and four other pieces of piers at Polimēra dibba.
- A pier carved with lotus flowers and other ornament, standing under a tree at Bauddha vanam.
- A plain pier near the south parchari.
- A carved and inscribed (Pali and old Telugu) pier in the Siva temple.
- Square-moulded base in a Brahman pujāri's house near the Siva temple.
- Circular base carved with horses, elephants and other animals at a well.
- Moulded circular base in the Siva temple.
- Umbrella in a Brahman pujāri's house near the Siva temple.
- Panel with rail and figures in the Siva temple.
- Large slab carved with the representation of a stūpa standing by the roadside near the Siva temple.
- Portion of a slab with pilaster and a base in a field near the south-east boundary.

In the Siva temple are four marbles with modern carvings of Hindu deities.

At the village of Rāmanagaram is a large, finely-sculptured slab which was taken from this stūpa. In the centre is a tree with a throne at its base, with worshippers and others mounted on elephants grouped around. At a house in Devarakōṭa is a large plain slab, and a circular base. The numbers of other marbles which must have existed have all disappeared, and were most probably broken up for lime.

(2) *Other Remains in and near Ghantasala.*

Bauddha vanam or Dharma kōṭa is an ancient site, now a piece of waste ground, near the parchari on the extreme northern boundary of the village. Pits have been dug at places by the villagers for mud. In these holes are numbers of large bricks. Other objects are occasionally found by the diggers. In the Siva temple at Ghantāsālā is an ancient brass dīpa with a Telugu inscription, and a small brass image of Siva, which were found here. A small chakra and a trisūla, each with a pillar base, were dug out of the same place a short time ago. These two last were purchased from the finders.

At the south-west of the parchari on the south boundary of the village is a low mound named Polimēradibba. Some loose bricks appear on the surface, but it has been so much demolished that it is impossible now to ascertain what building has been there. Some marble piers from the stūpa are fixed on it as boundary posts. Near it are some earth pits, which show courses of brickwork at two feet below the surface.

On the south, just over the village boundaries, and situated within those of Devarakōṭa is a low mound on the banks of a tank. It measures about 70 feet across, and is roughly circular in shape. Brick walls appear at places, and brick debris lie all over it. It has been very much demolished.

(3) *Srikākulam.*

A village in the Tsallāpalli Zemindāri, standing on the banks of the Kṛishṇa river, about 19 miles west from Masulipatam. It is mentioned as being the site of the first capital of the Andhra dynasty.* The present village is

entirely modern. There is a large temple, which is considered very sacred. It is stated to have been founded by Anantapāla, prime minister of Sumati Mahārājā, by whom is meant Simuka, the first of the Andhra dynasty. No part of the present structure is so ancient. The earliest is the shrine, which dates from the 11th century. Later grants were made by the Vijayanagar kings and others. A large entrance gōpura was built only a few years ago. In front of the temple is a large tank constructed by one of the Zemindārs of Devarakōṭa. No traces of the ancient town are visible. It is said to have been destroyed by shifting of the river channel. Its site is now in the bed of the river. A temple of a much earlier date than the present one is stated to have stood there.

(a) These two caskets with their contents have been handed to the Collector of the Kistna district, on behalf of the Zemindār of Devarakōṭa, whose property the mound is, and with whose permission the excavation was carried out.

III.—BHATTIPROLU.

In my letter, No. 97, dated 22nd February 1892, I gave an account of the inscribed caskets and other relics which had been found in the centre of the dome of the stûpa.^(a) Some trenches were dug at points around the exterior of the building. The brick basement or procession path at the south-east quadrant is unbroken; but no marble slabs remain against it. The face of the dome also at this point remains intact for a height of over 5 feet. A trench radiating outwards, found the brick floor outside the basement, and the lower courses of a wall; but only some chips of marble were picked up at the position of the rail. At the position of the north-east quadrant, the brick flooring between the basement and the rail remains. The basement itself has been removed, and a considerable portion of the brick-work of the dome inside the line of it. The mound which covers the remains of the central building is surrounded by another ring of mound on every side except the east. This outer ring is the earth thrown up during some of the previous excavations. On the north side, two parallel trenches were carried outwards from the position of the basement through this outer bank. These trenches were then connected by a cross cut. At this point some courses of the basement and of the north projection remain in position. I found here two pieces of a marble umbrella having a curve with a radius of 1 foot 6 inches; a small piece of a pilaster base from a slab; a pilaster capital with horses and riders; and the half of what has been a large slab carved with the lower portion of a draped figure. At a distance of 8 feet 4 inches from the basement, I found the remains of six marble bases of the rail standing in position. They measure 1 foot 11 inches by 12 inches, by 1 foot 10 inches in height, with a space between each of 1 foot 7 inches. Some of them have a portion of the lower disc-shaped socket hole for the rail panel. They are sunk 1 foot 6 inches below the brick floor and rest on a broad slab of marble laid longitudinally below them. Outside is a low brick wall. The ground was opened up for a few feet around these, but none others were seen there, nor any of the large panels which would surmount the rail. Similar trenches were dug on the west side, but though some courses of the basement remain, and several small plain slabs, splayed on one edge, were found outside it, no trace of the rail appeared. On the south, digging could not be carried out on account of the proximity of a tank.

The space between the rail piers is about half that of Amarâvati, and I think the panels can hardly have been carved like those from that stûpa. They have probably been of plain lenticular shape like those at Sanchi. It is difficult to believe that all the large top panels—which would be sculptured—have gone: some must surely be lying under the earth bank outside the position of the rail. The figure panel is checked on one side with a pilaster up its edge, and the portion of the drapery that remains is but slightly raised from the surface. The carving is in the same archaic style as in those from the stûpas at Jaggayyapêta and Garikapâd.

These indications would seem to show that only the panels at the four cardinal projections of the basement were sculptured. The line of slabs which surrounded, and which were removed from the face of the basement, would be plain, with the exception of a pilaster up one edge of each. That these panels, and not those of the rail, were the marbles removed and broken up for use on the canal, seems certain. An old maistry and others who removed these stones stated that they were plain slabs, about 4 feet square, standing with their tops about a yard underground. They had been removed from all around the wall. On seeing the portion of the south-east basement uncovered, they recognized it as the position these slabs had occupied. These particulars agree with the depth of the basement underground and the size of the slab now found. The portion of the rail also uncovered shows that such slabs could not have been used in its construction.

(2) *Chinna lañja dibba.*

Immediately on the east of the stûpa is the camping tope. It is a slightly-raised piece of ground known as Chinna lañja dibba. From the name, and the presence of bricks in the soil, it has probably been the site of a Buddhist building. A legend is current to the effect that a dancing girl had her residence here; the large mound was the temple where she worshipped. There is also a story of a "treasure" having been found many years ago at some spot in it, and a stone box or casket similar to the large ones recently taken from the centre of the large stûpa.

3. *Vikramârka kôṭa dibba.*

On the east outskirts of the village is a piece of ground under cultivation and planted with mimosa trees. It is known by the above name, and is said to have been the site of the fort of the king who ruled here. A long, low mound—one of the walls of the fort—can be traced for some distance. Large bricks were found while it was being dug into some "thirty years ago."

(a) The six large stones of the caskets have been deposited in the Madras Museum. The inscriptions are of the first importance, as they present a new type of the Asoka alphabet. Some of the letters differ remarkably in details from the Asoka alphabet hitherto known.

IV.—ANCIENT SITES IN THE REPALLE TALUK.

All the sites in this taluk included in the catalogue of Kistna mounds have been examined and notes of them are given below.* The

* G.O., dated 29th May 1889, No. 462, P.

whole of these are ancient village sites. Only a few of them have remains of brick or stone buildings; thus showing that the houses had been constructed of mud. In general, only those which show traces of buildings of interest should be dug into; as where these exist, they act as a guide where to dig and may show whether objects of interest are likely to be found. The popular idea among the people of these districts, that mounds covering the remains of Buddhist buildings are store-houses of treasure, is a myth. These buildings, it is almost needless to say, were temples built to enshrine a relic, which also may have had placed along with it some articles of no great intrinsic value. Treasure would not and has never been found in such places, yet it is widely believed in. This idea is one of the causes which have led to the complete demolition of so many of these stûpas. It must have arisen through exaggerated accounts of golden or other relics which have been found inside them. The mound at Bhattiprôlu was believed to contain five crores, the amount being estimated from the fact of a five-headed Naga having once been discovered.* The search for, and finding of the recently-discovered relics, caused

* Boswell's report—G.O., dated 14th December 1871, No. 2108.

great interest and excitement, even in distant villages, and crowds came and visited the place while the work was proceeding, and discussed the inscribed caskets after they were brought out. Most of those who were not present when the articles were brought to the surface went away convinced that a great treasure had just been dug out. There seems reason to believe that there is much treasure buried in the Kistna district, but it is in secret places, or in places which were once secret, but are now exposed. Such are the sites or foundations of houses which have become ruined or completely razed. These may be found by chance ploughing or digging as at Buddhâni, or as with the find of Roman coins lately made. Numbers of small antique articles of interest must be often found by those digging into these village-sites for earth for brickmaking or other purposes, but their finds are almost invariably kept secret. An instance is the small brass articles from Baudha vanam at Ghantâsâlâ. The chances are, however, against anything that might be found in such sites repaying the outlay of a systematic search for it by digging. It is not under every house that treasure is buried, or, if so placed, that it is left there when the house is deserted or destroyed. In places where coins are found scattered about after rain, good results may be obtained by the use of sieves.

(1) *Anantavaram.*

Fifteen miles north by west of Répalle. Yelûlapâdu dibba is a piece of waste ground, over an acre in extent, among the fields on the south of the village. The soil is black mud, and has been extensively dug into for brickmaking. The earth is thickly mixed with broken pottery and bones of animals. There are no traces of buildings visible on the surface, or in the pits dug by the brickmakers. It is an ancient village-site.

(2) *Buddhâni.*

Eighteen miles west by south of Répalle. Jains dibba is the name given to an ancient village-site, over a portion of which the present village is built. The soil is black mud, mixed with broken pottery. Several years ago some copper Buddhist images were found.† The spot pointed out is now cultivated as a garden. In

† Sewell's Lists, p. 78.

it lies a plain white marble-pier. Adjoining it is a piece of vacant ground with a number of large circular pits dug all over it. Some of these are for storing grain, and others to supply earth for the fields. They have been dug to an extra depth in search of treasure; but nothing, so far as I can learn, was ever found. The earth is mixed with bricks and broken pottery.

(3) *Chandârôlu.*

Fifteen miles west of Répalle. A large mound on the north of the village, which it has been thought might cover the remains of some ancient building, is a Muhammadan burying-ground, and covered all over with gravestones. No examination of what it may contain can therefore be made. On the south of the village is a low mound running east and west for a quarter of a mile. It is known as Kôṭa dibba and is said to be the remains of a fort. Broken pottery and bricks are found when the earth is disturbed. When any digging is done by the roadside or in the house-yards of the village, pillars and other stones are occasionally turned up. An immense treasure in gold was found at some considerable depth underground when the canal was being cut. It was discovered by chance, as in most cases of treasure-finding, and had probably been buried under a house which had become ruined and its site ploughed over.

(4) *Chandûru.*

Nineteen miles north-west of Répalle. Uppala dibba is a small salt mound by the side of the village near the canal.

(5) *Konḍamudi.*

Seventeen miles west by north of Répalle. In the centre of the village is a low open mound measuring about 40 feet across and 6 feet high. It is surrounded by houses. Its section is seen at some places where it has been dug into. The earth is black mud, mixed with pottery and layers of ashes at different levels. It forms the summit of the rising ground on which the village is built. About twenty years ago the ground for some considerable space around it was of the same height, but the mud has gradually been removed from all sides for use on the fields and the cleared ground built on. It is the last remaining portion of the higher ground of the ancient village-site.

(6) *Māṇḍūru.*

Fifteen miles north-west of Répalle. The Pati dibba is a low mound of black mud and broken pottery in the centre of the village. It measures about 150 feet across. It is an ancient village-site.

(7) *Mōrakūru.*

Eighteen miles north-west by west of Répalle. The Kanḍepati dibba is a deserted village-site covering about an acre of ground, about half-a-mile to the south of the village. The earth is black and mixed with fragments of pottery. Copper, lead, and occasionally gold and silver coins are found after rain.

(8) *Mūlpūru.*

Fourteen miles north-west of Répalle. The Pati dibba is a mound in the village similar to that at Konḍamudi.

(9) *Peravali.*

Eleven miles north-west of Répalle. The Jains dibba in the village is a mound like that at Mūlpūru.

(10) *Pinapāḍu.*

Nineteen miles north-west by north of Répalle. The Mallipati dibba is a deserted village-site near the parchari on the south of the village. It is about a hundred yards square. It has been extensively dug into for brickmaking and eneroached on by the surrounding fields, so that its original extent must have been greater. The soil is that usually found on such sites. It is said "that about three years ago" some gold jewellery was found here by some one who was removing earth for the roads.

ORDER—dated 18th June 1892, No. 423, Public.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

To the Superintendent, Archaeological Survey. 6
 " the Superintendent, Central Museum. 3
 " Dr. E. Hultzsch, Epigraphist. 1
 " all Collectors. 1/2

Copy to the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, London. 1

" the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, Ceylon Branch. 3

" the Secretary, Royal Institute of British Architects,

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" the President, Asiatic Society, Bengal. 3

" the Secretary, Madras Literary Society. 3

" R. Sewell, Esq., Madras Civil Service. 3

" Dr. J. Burgess, C.I.E. 1

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" the Archaeological Commissioner for Ceylon. 3

" Henry Cousens, Esq., Superintendent, Archaeological Survey of Western India, Poona. 3

" Pandit Natesa Sastri, M.F.L.S. 1

" Rev. Dr. W. Miller, C.I.E., Principal, Christian College, Madras. 3

" Professor G. Bühler, L.L.D., C.I.E., 22, Stefanie Gasse Ober Döbling, Vienna. 3

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Chief Secretary.

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G.O., 18th June 1892, No. 423.

JUNE.

Archæology.

Recording the progress report on Archæological
Survey operations conducted during the last
quarter of the year 1891-92.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From L. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, Madras,
to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 10th May 1892,
No. 210.

I have the honour to submit a progress report on Archaeological Survey operations conducted during the last quarter of the year 1891-92.

2. Excavations have been carried out at the Buddhist stūpas of Guḍivāda, Bhattiprōlu and Ghantasaḷā, in the Kistna district. All the catalogued mounds in the Rēpalle taluk have been inspected, and notes of them made.

3. The Dutch tombs at Masulipatam have been inspected. Drawings have been made of the cemetery and the most interesting of the Dutch tombs at Pulicat.

4. While passing through Bozwāda, the Head Draughtsman observed some excavation being made at a house near the Siva temple. The diggers had found at some three feet from the surface a curious monolithic pillar over 6 feet in height, with four Jain figures grouped around, and a triple umbrella over each. I wrote to the Collector to see if it could not be secured for the Museum.

ENCLOSURE.

I. GUḌIVADA.

The taluk head-quarters, 20 miles north-north-west of Masulipatam. The remains of the demolished Buddhist stūpa stand in a low mound named Larija dibba in the centre of the village. The ground measures about 140 feet square. On the west and south are roads and on the two other sides house-yards enclosed by mud walls built on the slope of the mound. I dug in three narrow trenches at different points and found the rough traces of a solid brick wall at each. The edge of the existing brickwork is close up to the boundaries of the ground, but in its present condition it is impossible to ascertain how much further out the unbroken wall may have extended. The foundations are 3 feet below the level of the surrounding ground level, and the brickwork is from 9 to 11 feet in height. Traces of courses of circular rings of bricks appear all over the centre of the mound, showing that the dome had been constructed of solid brickwork like that at Bhattiprōlu. Four relic caskets

* Sewall.

Report in G.O., No. 1620, of 1st November 1878, p. 33.
Lists, Vol. 1, p. 52.

seem to have been found during the demolition. From inquiries on the spot, these appear to have occupied similar positions to those recently discovered at the stūpa above referred to. From Mr. Sewall's description, they must have been made of stone slabs like that found in the upper part of the dome of the Bhattiprōlu stūpa. Though the dome had been greatly demolished, there seemed a probability that marble slabs or portions of a rail might exist around its position, underground, as at Amarāvati and elsewhere; but the condition of the mound shows that they must have been all removed.

2. On the west of the village is a rising piece of ground known as Lāmapādu dibba, the site of the ancient village and fort. Long, low ridges of earth, each about a quarter of a mile in length, can be indistinctly traced; these form a large square, and mark the position of the walls of the fort. The enclosed ground was occupied by the village, which is said to have been a place of importance in the transport of grain between Bozwāda and Ellore. Large numbers of finely-made beads of various material and Buddhist karṇas are found by the villagers after rain. I secured 120 of the latter. They are round and square, and have the lion, dāgoba and other emblems of the Andhra dynasty; some few have legible inscriptions. They are similar to those found at Amarāvati. Fragments of sepulchral urns and grain jars of massive pottery are numerous, and large bricks are turned up in places.

Sketches were made of the fine Jaina image which now stands in the temple.

A village in the Tsallāpalli Zemindāri, 13 miles west of Masulipatam. In the fields on the north-east of the village, is a mound known as Lājja dibba. It is about 112 feet in diameter and 23 feet in height. Brickwalls and black mud appear on the surface. The cultivated fields extend close up to, and in parts encroach on the slope of the mound. On the north-west side, part of a palmyra tree grows on the lower part of it. The excavations recently carried out show the mound to contain the remains of a stūpa, with a rather curious plan. The upper part of the building is away, but the plan showing the arrangement of the walls remains complete (Plate 1). In the centre is a cube of solid brickwork 10 feet square. Enclosing it is a hollow chamber measuring 19 feet square, with walls 3 feet 4 inches thick. Outside it is a circular wall 3 feet 6 inches thick, and 55 feet 10 inches in exterior diameter. Outside it again is another ring of brickwork which has formed the main outer wall of the structure; it is 18 feet 3 inches thick. On its exterior surface are remains of the chunam facing of the wall. Its diameter is 111 feet. Around the base of this wall is a raised circular basement or procession path, 5 feet 7 inches broad and 4 feet 6 inches high; opposite each of the four cardinal points is the projection usually found on South Indian stūpas. Outside the base, and now from 4 to 6 feet underground, are remains of a brick flooring. The two central squares are connected by walls 2 feet 4 inches thick which run out from the centre and corners parallel to their sides. From the points where these cross walls touch the inner circular wall, they radiate outwards from the centre. The cells or hollow chambers formed by these different walls crossing each other are filled with firmly-packed black mud. The difference in the thickness of the walls is noticeable, and might show that the squares and circles—which are thicker than the others—were carried up as main walls to form storeys. They may, of course, as with the cross walls, have been simply added to strengthen the dome, if the exterior wall was carried up in that form. Only a portion of the central masonry, sufficient to show the plan of the whole, was laid clear. This is indicated by the shaded lines on the sketch of the plan. From the position of the walls excavated, the remainder of this part of the design is evident, and is also confirmed by the traces appearing on the other parts of the surface of the mound.

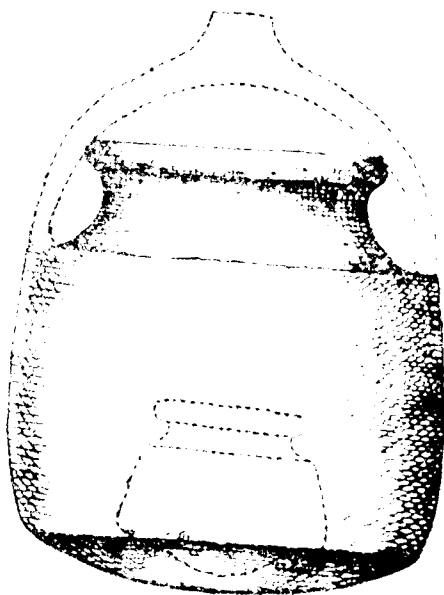


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

in height, with a diameter of $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches (Fig. 2). In it are—
two small pieces of bone, or coral (?);
one white hexagonal crystal bead, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch long;
five small round beads;
one flat mother-of-pearl bead;
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A trench was carried around the face of the basement, to ascertain if any marble slabs remained in position; but none were so. A marble slab carved with the Sripāda or sacred feet of Buddha, a piece of a carved top rail panel, and a number of plain slabs were found near the south projection. The basement wall is unbroken, except on the east side, and leans forward at a considerable angle. The projection on the north side is nearly complete; on the south a few of the lower courses remain; on the east, it is entirely away; and of that on the west, a few traces remain. A shaft was sunk in the centre of the brickwork. At a depth of 3 feet from the summit was a small well, 9 inches square, filled with earth; the brickwork above it was solid. Among the earth at the top of the well were pieces of a broken chatti, and the following articles which had apparently at one time been inside it:—a small lead coin $\frac{3}{4}$ inch square, a pentagonal blue and white crystal bead $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long and three small beads. Scattered around—and which had evidently been placed with the same purpose as were the gold flowers around the small caskets at Bhattiprōlu—was a quantity of red, white and blue pieces of crystal. Just below these was a small circular red earthenware chatti, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and height (Fig. 1). It has a semi-circular lid with a small knob on the top. It was filled with fine black earth. In the bottom was a small glazed chatti made of a material resembling stoneware. It is $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch

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A plain pier near the south parchari.

A carved and inscribed (Pali and old Telugu) pier in the Siva temple.

Square-moulded base in a Brahman pujāri's house near the Siva temple.

Circular base carved with horses, elephants and other animals at a well.

Moulded circular base in the Siva temple.

Umbrella in a Brahman pujāri's house near the Siva temple.

Panel with rail and figures in the Siva temple.

Large slab carved with the representation of a stūpa standing by the roadside near the Siva temple.

Portion of a slab with pilaster and a base in a field near the south-east boundary.

In the Siva temple are four marbles with modern carvings of Hindu deities.

At the village of Rāmanagaram is a large, finely-sculptured slab which was taken from this stūpa. In the centre is a tree with a throne at its base, with worshippers and others mounted on elephants grouped around. At a house in Devarakōṭa is a large plain slab, and a circular base. The numbers of other marbles which must have existed have all disappeared, and were most probably broken up for lime.

(2) Other Remains in and near Ghantasālā.

Bauddha vanam or Dharma kōṭa is an ancient site, now a piece of waste ground, near the parchari on the extreme northern boundary of the village. Pits have been dug at places by the villagers for mud. In these holes are numbers of large bricks. Other objects are occasionally found by the diggers. In the Siva temple at Ghantasālā is an ancient brass dipa with a Telugu inscription, and a small brass image of Siva, which were found here. A small chakra and a trisūla, each with a pillar base, were dug out of the same place a short time ago. These two last were purchased from the finders.

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On the south, just over the village boundaries, and situated within those of Devarakōṭa is a low mound on the banks of a tank. It measures about 70 feet across, and is roughly circular in shape. Brick walls appear at places, and brick debris lie all over it. It has been very much demolished.

(3) Srikākulam.

A village in the Tsallāpalli Zemindāri, standing on the banks of the Krishna river, about 19 miles west from Masulipatam. It is mentioned as being the site of the first capital of the Andhra dynasty.*

The present village is entirely modern. There is a large temple, which is considered very sacred. It is stated to have been founded by Anantapāla, prime minister of Sumati Mahārājā, by whom is meant Simuka, the first of the Andhra dynasty. No part of the present structure is so ancient. The earliest is the shrine, which dates from the 11th century. Later grants were made by the Vijayanagar kings and others. A large entrance gōpura was built only a few years ago. In front of the temple is a large tank constructed by one of the Zemindārs of Devarakōṭa. No traces of the ancient town are visible. It is said to have been destroyed by shifting of the river channel. Its site is now in the bed of the river. A temple of a much earlier date than the present one is stated to have stood there.

* These two caskets with their contents have been handed to the Collector of the Kistna district, on behalf of the Zemindār of Devarakōṭa, whose property the mound is, and with whose permission the excavation was carried out.

III.—BHATTIPROLU.

In my letter, No. 97, dated 22nd February 1892, I gave an account of the inscribed caskets and other relics which had been found in the centre of the dome of the stūpa.^(a) Some trenches were dug at points around the exterior of the building. The brick basement or procession path at the south-east quadrant is unbroken; but no marble slabs remain against it. The face of the dome also at this point remains intact for a height of over 5 feet. A trench radiating outwards, found the brick floor outside the basement, and the lower courses of a wall; but only some chips of marble were picked up at the position of the rail. At the position of the north-east quadrant, the brick flooring between the basement and the rail remains. The basement itself has been removed, and a considerable portion of the brick-work of the dome inside the line of it. The mound which covers the remains of the central building is surrounded by another ring of mound on every side except the east. This outer ring is the earth thrown up during some of the previous excavations. On the north side, two parallel trenches were carried outwards from the position of the basement through this outer bank. These trenches were then connected by a cross cut. At this point some courses of the basement and of the north projection remain in position. I found here two pieces of a marble umbrella having a curve with a radius of 1 foot 6 inches; a small piece of a pilaster base from a slab; a pilaster capital with horses and riders; and the half of what has been a large slab carved with the lower portion of a draped figure. At a distance of 8 feet 4 inches from the basement, I found the remains of six marble bases of the rail standing in position. They measure 1 foot 11 inches by 12 inches, by 1 foot 10 inches in height, with a space between each of 1 foot 7 inches. Some of them have a portion of the lower disc-shaped socket hole for the rail panel. They are sunk 1 foot 6 inches below the brick floor and rest on a broad slab of marble laid longitudinally below them. Outside is a low brick wall. The ground was opened up for a few feet around these, but none others were seen there, nor any of the large panels which would surmount the rail. Similar trenches were dug on the west side, but though some courses of the basement remain, and several small plain slabs, splayed on one edge, were found outside it, no trace of the rail appeared. On the south, digging could not be carried out on account of the proximity of a tank.

The space between the rail piers is about half that of Amarāvati, and I think the panels can hardly have been carved like those from that stūpa. They have probably been of plain lenticular shape like those at Sanchi. It is difficult to believe that all the large top panels—which would be sculptured—have gone: some must surely be lying under the earth bank outside the position of the rail. The figure panel is checked on one side with a pilaster up its edge, and the portion of the drapery that remains is but slightly raised from the surface. The carving is in the same archaic style as in those from the stūpas at Jaggayyapēta and Garikapād.

These indications would seem to show that only the panels at the four cardinal projections of the basement were sculptured. The line of slabs which surrounded, and which were removed from the face of the basement, would be plain, with the exception of a pilaster up one edge of each. That these panels, and not those of the rail, were the marbles removed and broken up for use on the canal, seems certain. An old mistry and others who removed these stones stated that they were plain slabs, about 4 feet square, standing with their tops about a yard underground. They had been removed from all around the wall. On seeing the portion of the south-east basement uncovered, they recognized it as the position these slabs had occupied. These particulars agree with the depth of the basement underground and the size of the slab now found. The portion of the rail also uncovered shows that such slabs could not have been used in its construction.

(2) *Chinna lañja dibba*.

Immediately on the east of the stūpa is the camping tope. It is a slightly-raised piece of ground known as Chinna lañja dibba. From the name, and the presence of bricks in the soil, it has probably been the site of a Buddhist building. A legend is current to the effect that a dancing girl had her residence here; the large mound was the temple where she worshipped. There is also a story of a "treasure" having been found many years ago at some spot in it, and a stone box or casket similar to the large ones recently taken from the centre of the large stūpa.

3. *Vikramārka kōṭa dibba*.

On the east outskirts of the village is a piece of ground under cultivation and planted with mimosa trees. It is known by the above name, and is said to have been the site of the fort of the king who ruled here. A long, low mound—one of the walls of the fort—can be traced for some distance. Large bricks were found while it was being dug into some "thirty years ago."

^(a) The six large stones of the caskets have been deposited in the Museum. The inscriptions are of the first importance, as they present a new type of the Asoka alphabet. Some of the letters differ remarkably in details from the Asoka alphabet hitherto known.

IV.—ANCIENT SITES IN THE REPALLE TALUK.

All the sites in this taluk included in the catalogue of Kistna mounds have been examined and notes of them are given below.* The whole of these are ancient village sites. Only a few of them have remains of brick or stone buildings; thus showing that the houses had been constructed of mud. In general, only those which show traces of buildings of interest should be dug into; as where these exist, they act as a guide where to dig and may show whether objects of interest are likely to be found. The popular idea among the people of these districts, that mounds covering the remains of Buddhist buildings are store-houses of treasure, is a myth. These buildings, it is almost needless to say, were temples built to enshrine a relic, which also may have had placed along with it some articles of no great intrinsic value. Treasure would not and has never been found in such places, yet it is widely believed in. This idea is one of the causes which have led to the complete demolition of so many of these stūpas. It must have arisen through exaggerated accounts of golden or other relics which have been found inside them. The mound at Bhattiprolu was believed to contain five crores, the amount being estimated from the fact of a five-headed Naga having once been discovered.* The search for, and finding of the recently-discovered relics, caused great interest and excitement, even in distant villages, and crowds came and visited the place while the work was proceeding, and discussed the inscribed caskets after they were brought out. Most of those who were not present when the articles were brought to the surface went away convinced that a great treasure had just been dug out. There seems reason to believe that there is much treasure buried in the Kistna district, but it is in secret places, or in places which were once secret, but are now exposed. Such are the sites or foundations of houses which have become ruined or completely razed. These may be found by chance ploughing or digging as at Buddhāni, or as with the find of Roman coins lately made. Numbers of small antique articles of interest must be often found by those digging into these village-sites for earth for brickmaking or other purposes, but their finds are almost invariably kept secret. An instance is the small brass articles from Baudha vanam at Ghantaśālā. The chances are, however, against anything that might be found in such sites repaying the outlay of a systematic search for it by digging. It is not under every house that treasure is buried, or, if so placed, that it is left there when the house is deserted or destroyed. In places where coins are found scattered about after rain, good results may be obtained by the use of sieves.

* Boswell's report—G.O., dated 14th December 1871, No. 2108.

(1) *Anantavaram*.

Fifteen miles north by west of Répalle. Yelūlapādu dibba is a piece of waste ground, over an acre in extent, among the fields on the south of the village. The soil is black mud, and has been extensively dug into for brickmaking. The earth is thickly mixed with broken pottery and bones of animals. There are no traces of buildings visible on the surface, or in the pits dug by the brickmakers. It is an ancient village-site.

(2) *Buddhāni*.

Eighteen miles west by south of Répalle. Jains dibba is the name given to an ancient village-site, over a portion of which the present village is built. The soil is black mud, mixed with broken pottery. Several years ago some copper Buddhist images were found.† The spot pointed out is now cultivated as a garden. In it lies a plain white marble-pier. Adjoining it is a piece of vacant ground with a number of large circular pits dug all over it. Some of these are for storing grain, and others to supply earth for the fields. They have been dug to an extra depth in search of treasure; but nothing, so far as I can learn, was ever found. The earth is mixed with bricks and broken pottery.

† Sewell's Lists, p. 78.

(3) *Chandavolu*.

Fifteen miles west of Répalle. A large mound on the north of the village, which it has been thought might cover the remains of some ancient building, is a Muhammadan burying-ground, and covered all over with gravestones. No examination of what it may contain can therefore be made. On the south of the village is a low mound running east and west for a quarter of a mile. It is known as Kōṭa dibba and is said to be the remains of a fort. Broken pottery and bricks are found when the earth is disturbed. When any digging is done by the roadside or in the house-yards of the village, pillars and other stones are occasionally turned up. An immense treasure in gold was found at some considerable depth underground when the canal was being cut. It was discovered by chance, as in most cases of treasure-finding, and had probably been buried under a house which had become ruined and its site ploughed over.

(4) *Chandūru*.

Nineteen miles north-west of Répalle. Uppala dibba is a small salt mound by the side of the village near the canal.

(5) *Konḍamudi.*

Seventeen miles west by north of Répalle. In the centre of the village is a low open mound measuring about 40 feet across and 6 feet high. It is surrounded by houses. Its section is seen at some places where it has been dug into. The earth is black mud, mixed with pottery and layers of ashes at different levels. It forms the summit of the rising ground on which the village is built. About twenty years ago the ground for some considerable space around it was of the same height, but the mud has gradually been removed from all sides for use on the fields and the cleared ground built on. It is the last remaining portion of the higher ground of the ancient village-site.

(6) *Mandūru.*

Fifteen miles north-west of Répalle. The Pati dibba is a low mound of black mud and broken pottery in the centre of the village. It measures about 150 feet across. It is an ancient village-site.

(7) *Mōrakūru.*

Eighteen miles north-west by west of Répalle. The Kanḍepati dibba is a deserted village-site covering about an acre of ground, about half-a-mile to the south of the village. The earth is black and mixed with fragments of pottery. Copper, lead, and occasionally gold and silver coins are found after rain.

(8) *Mūlpāru.*

Fourteen miles north-west of Répalle. The Pati dibba is a mound in the village similar to that at Konḍamudi.

(9) *Peravali.*

Eleven miles north-west of Répalle. The Jains dibba in the village is a mound like that at Mūlpāru.

(10) *Pinapāḍu.*

Nineteen miles north-west by north of Répalle. The Mallipati dibba is a deserted village-site near the parchari on the south of the village. It is about a hundred yards square. It has been extensively dug into for brickmaking and encroached on by the surrounding fields, so that its original extent must have been greater. The soil is that usually found on such sites. It is said "that about three years ago" some gold jewellery was found here by some one who was removing earth for the roads.

Order 18 June 1914

Sept
To the Archaeological Surveyor—
" the Superintendent, Central Museum.
" Dr. E. Hultzsch, Epigraphist.
" all Collectors.

Copy to the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, London.

" the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, Ceylon Branch.

" the Secretary, Royal Institute of British Architects,

9, Conduit Street, Hanover Square, London. W.

" the President, Asiatic Society, Bengal.

" the Secretary, Madras Literary Society.

" R. Sewell, Esq., ———— *Madras Civil Service*

" Dr. J. Burgess, C.I.E.

" V. A. Smith, Esq., Bengal Civil Service.

" Dr. Rost, Librarian, India Office.

" A. C. MacDonald, Esq., Dy. Keeper of the Indian Institute, Oxford.

" J. F. Fleet, Esq., B.O.S., C.I.E., ———— *by order S.D., Bombay*

" Dr. G. Oppert, Madras.

" the Archaeological Commissioner for Ceylon.

" Henry Cousens, Esq., Archaeological Surveyor for Western India, Poona.

" Pandit Natesa Sastri, M.F.L.S.

Editors' Table.

Sept
Rev. Dr. W. Miller, D.D., Principal Christian
College, Madras.

Professor G. Böhler, D.D., M.F.L.S.,
22 Stefanie-Platz
Ober Döbling, Vienna

Since
320 copies
25/6

Arch. Progress Report

Sir Henry Stokes

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 10th May 1892, No. 210.

I have the honour to submit a progress report on Archaeological Survey operations conducted during the last quarter of the year 1891-92.

2. Excavations have been carried out at the Buddhist stūpas of Gudivāda, Bhattiprōlu and Ghaṇṭaśālā, in the Kistna district. All the catalogued mounds in the Rēpalle taluk have been inspected, and notes of them made.

3. The Dutch tombs at Masulipatam have been inspected. Drawings have been made of the cemetery and the most interesting of the Dutch tombs at Pulicat.

4. While passing through Bezwāda, the Head Draughtsman observed some excavation being made at a house near the Siva temple. The diggers had found at some three feet from the surface a curious monolithic pillar over 6 feet in height, with four Jain figures grouped around, and a triple umbrella over each. I wrote to the Collector to see if it could not be secured for the Museum.

ENCLOSURE.

I.—GUDIVADA.

The taluk head-quarters, 20 miles north-north-west of Masulipatam. The remains of the demolished Buddhist stūpa stand in a low mound named Laṇḍa dibba in the centre of the village. The ground measures about 140 feet square. On the west and south are roads and on the two other sides house-yards enclosed by mud walls built on the slope of the mound. I dug in three narrow trenches at different points and found the rough faces of a solid brick wall at each. The edge of the existing brickwork is close up to the boundaries of the ground, but in its present condition it is impossible to ascertain how much further out the unbroken wall may have extended. The foundations are 3 feet below the level of the surrounding ground level, and the brickwork is from 9 to 11 feet in height. Traces of courses of circular rings of bricks appear all over the centre of the mound, showing that the dome had been constructed of solid brickwork

* Sewell.

Report in G.O., No. 1620, of 1st November 1878, p. 33.
Lists, Vol. 1, p. 52.

like that at Bhattiprōlu. Four relie caskets seem to have been found during the demolition.* From inquiries on the spot, these appear to have occupied similar positions to those recently discovered at the stūpa above referred to. From Mr. Sewell's description, they must have been made of stone slabs like that found in the upper part of the dome of the Bhattiprōlu stūpa. Though the dome had been greatly demolished, there seemed a probability that marble slabs or portions of a rail might exist around its position, underground, as at Amarāvati and elsewhere; but the condition of the mound shows that they must have been all removed.

2. On the west of the village is a rising piece of ground known as Lāmapādu dibba, the site of the ancient village and fort. Long, low ridges of earth, each about a quarter of a mile in length, can be indistinctly traced; these form a large square, and mark the position of the walls of the fort. The enclosed ground was occupied by the village, which is said to have been a place of importance in the transport of grain between Bezwāda and Ellore. Large numbers of finely-made beads of various material and Buddhist lead coins are found by the villagers after rain. I secured 120 of the latter. They are round and square, and have the lion, dāgoba and other emblems of the Andhra dynasty; some few have legible inscriptions. They are similar to those found at Amarāvati. Fragments of sepulchral urns and grain jars of massive pottery are numerous, and large bricks are turned up in places.

Sketches were made of the fine Jaina image which now stands in the temple.

II.—GHANTASALA.

A village in the Tsallâpalli Zemindâri, 13 miles west of Masulipatam. In the fields on the north-east of the village, is a mound known as Lañja dibba. It is about 112 feet in diameter and 23 feet in height. Brickwalls and black mud appear on the surface. The cultivated fields extend close up to, and in parts encroach on the slope of the mound. On the north-west side, part of a palmyra tope grows on the lower part of it. The excavations recently carried out show the mound to contain the remains of a stûpa, with a rather curious plan. The upper part of the building is away, but the plan showing the arrangement of the walls remains complete (Plate 1). In the centre is a cube of solid brickwork 10 feet square. Enclosing it is a hollow chamber measuring 19 feet square, with walls 3 feet 4 inches thick. Outside it is a circular wall 3 feet 6 inches thick, and 55 feet 10 inches in exterior diameter. Outside it again is another ring of brickwork which has formed the main outer wall of the structure; it is 18 feet 3 inches thick. On its exterior surface are remains of the chunam facing of the wall. Its diameter is 111 feet. Around the base of this wall is a raised circular basement or procession path, 5 feet 7 inches broad and 4 feet 6 inches high; opposite each of the four cardinal points is the projection usually found on South Indian stûpas. Outside the base, and now from 4 to 6 feet underground, are remains of a brick flooring. The two central squares are connected by walls 2 feet 4 inches thick which run out from the centre and corners parallel to their sides. From the points where these cross walls touch the inner circular wall, they radiate outwards from the centre. The cells or hollow chambers formed by these different walls crossing each other are filled with firmly-packed black mud. The difference in the thickness of the walls is noticeable, and might show that the squares and circles—which are thicker than the others—were carried up as main walls to form storeys. They may, of course, as with the cross walls, have been simply added to strengthen the dome, if the exterior wall was carried up in that form. Only a portion of the central masonry, sufficient to show the plan of the whole, was laid clear. This is indicated by the shaded lines on the sketch of the plan. From the position of the walls excavated, the remainder of this part of the design is evident, and is also confirmed by the traces appearing on the other parts of the surface of the mound.

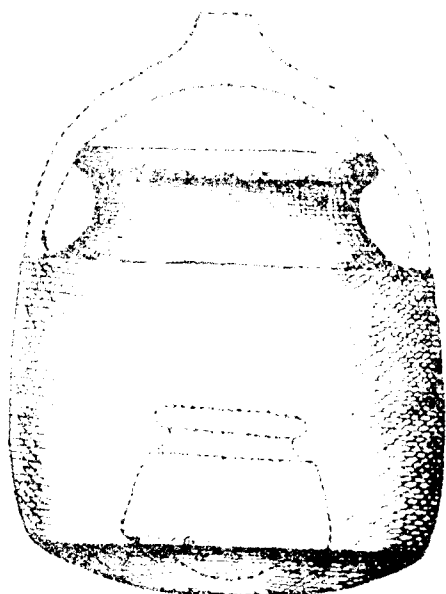


Fig. 1

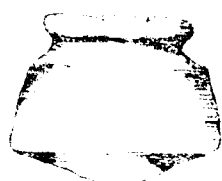


Fig. 2

in height, with a diameter of $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches (Fig. 2).

two small pieces of bone, or coral (?);
one white hexagonal crystal bead, $\frac{5}{8}$ inch long;
five small round beads;
one flat mother-of-pearl bead;
six small pearls;

A trench was carried around the face of the basement, to ascertain if any marble slabs remained in position; but none were so. A marble slab carved with the Sripâda or sacred feet of Buddha, a piece of a carved top rail panel, and a number of plain slabs were found near the south projection. The basement wall is unbroken, except on the east side, and leans forward at a considerable angle. The projection on the north side is nearly complete; on the south a few of the lower courses remain; on the east, it is entirely away; and of that on the west, a few traces remain. A shaft was sunk in the centre of the brickwork. At a depth of 3 feet from the summit was a small well, 9 inches square, filled with earth; the brickwork above it was solid. Among the earth at the top of the well were pieces of a broken chatti, and the following articles which had apparently at one time been inside it:—a small lead coin $\frac{3}{4}$ th inch square, a pentagonal blue and white crystal bead $\frac{1}{4}$ th inch long and three small beads. Scattered around—and which had evidently been placed with the same purpose as were the gold flowers around the small caskets at Bhattiprôlu—was a quantity of red, white and blue pieces of crystal. Just below these was a small circular red earthenware chatti, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and height (Fig. 1). It has a semi-circular lid with a small knob on the top. It was filled with fine black earth. In the bottom was a small glazed chatti made of a material resembling stoneware. It is $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch

In it are—

two pieces of yellow crystal;
two bits of gold leaf, one of them cut as a flower with eight petals, and some bits of a mineral like that found in the third casket at Bhattiprôlu (seemingly silicate) (a).

The small well in the centre of the stûpa gradually increased in size, till at 13 feet from the surface it was 2 feet 6 inches square. For the lower half of that depth, it was filled with clay. The well there was closed with a brick. From that point, down to the foundations—26 feet from the summit of the mound—the well was 9 inches and 12 inches square, each alternate course. No other relics were found. Below the foundations, the soil is sand. A number of the marble sculptures and inscriptions which have been removed from the stûpa were found in this and other villages. Drawings of them have been made.

Those at Ghantâsâlâ are—

A pier carved with a throne and chakra, and four other pieces of piers at Polimêra dibba.
A pier carved with lotus flowers and other ornament, standing under a tree at Baudhdha vanam.

A plain pier near the south parchari.

A carved and inscribed (Pali and old Telugu) pier in the Siva temple.

Square-moulded base in a Brahman pujâri's house near the Siva temple.

Circular base carved with horses, elephants and other animals at a well.

Moulded circular base in the Siva temple.

Umbrella in a Brahman pujâri's house near the Siva temple.

Panel with rail and figures in the Siva temple.

Large slab carved with the representation of a stûpa standing by the roadside near the Siva temple.

Portion of a slab with pilaster and a base in a field near the south-east boundary.

In the Siva temple are four marbles with modern carvings of Hindu deities.

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Baudhdha vanam or Dharma kôta is an ancient site, now a piece of waste ground, near the parchari on the extreme northern boundary of the village. Pits have been dug at places by the villagers for mud. In these holes are numbers of large bricks. Other objects are occasionally found by the diggers. In the Siva temple at Ghantâsâlâ is an ancient brass dipa with a Telugu inscription, and a small brass image of Siva, which were found here. A small chakra and a trisûla, each with a pillar base, were dug out of the same place a short time ago. These two last were purchased from the finders.

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entirely modern. There is a large temple, which is considered very sacred. It is stated to have been founded by Anantapâla, prime minister of Sumati Mahârâjâ, by whom is meant Simuka, the first of the Andhra dynasty. No part of the present structure is so ancient. The earliest is the shrine, which dates from the 11th century. Later grants were made by the Vijayanagar kings and others. A large entrance gôpura was built only a few years ago. In front of the temple is a large tank constructed by one of the Zemindârs of Devarakôta. No traces of the ancient town are visible. It is said to have been destroyed by shifting of the river channel. Its site is now in the bed of the river. A temple of a much earlier date than the present one is stated to have stood there.

(a) These two caskets with their contents have been handed to the Collector of the Kistna district, on behalf of the Zemindâr of Devarakôta, whose property the mound is, and with whose permission the excavation was carried out.

III.—BHATTIPROLU.

In my letter, No. 97, dated 22nd February 1892, I gave an account of the inscribed caskets and other relics which had been found in the centre of the dome of the stûpa.^(a) Some trenches were dug at points around the exterior of the building. The brick basement or procession path at the south-east quadrant is unbroken; but no marble slabs remain against it. The face of the dome also at this point remains intact for a height of over 5 feet. A trench radiating outwards, found the brick floor outside the basement, and the lower courses of a wall; but only some chips of marble were picked up at the position of the rail. At the position of the north-east quadrant, the brick flooring between the basement and the rail remains. The basement itself has been removed, and a considerable portion of the brick-work of the dome inside the line of it. The mound which covers the remains of the central building is surrounded by another ring of mound on every side except the east. This outer ring is the earth thrown up during some of the previous excavations. On the north side, two parallel trenches were carried outwards from the position of the basement through this outer bank. These trenches were then connected by a cross cut. At this point some courses of the basement and of the north projection remain in position. I found here two pieces of a marble umbrella having a curve with a radius of 1 foot 6 inches; a small piece of a pilaster base from a slab; a pilaster capital with horses and riders; and the half of what has been a large slab carved with the lower portion of a draped figure. At a distance of 8 feet 4 inches from the basement, I found the remains of six marble bases of the rail standing in position. They measure 1 foot 11 inches by 12 inches, by 1 foot 10 inches in height, with a space between each of 1 foot 7 inches. Some of them have a portion of the lower disc-shaped socket hole for the rail panel. They are sunk 1 foot 6 inches below the brick floor and rest on a broad slab of marble laid longitudinally below them. Outside is a low brick wall. The ground was opened up for a few feet around these, but none others were seen there, nor any of the large panels which would surmount the rail. Similar trenches were dug on the west side, but though some courses of the basement remain, and several small plain slabs, splayed on one edge, were found outside it, no trace of the rail appeared. On the south, digging could not be carried out on account of the proximity of a tank.

The space between the rail piers is about half that of Amarāvati, and I think the panels can hardly have been carved like those from that stûpa. They have probably been of plain lenticular shape like those at Sanchi. It is difficult to believe that all the large top panels—which would be sculptured—have gone: some must surely be lying under the earth bank outside the position of the rail. The figure panel is checked on one side with a pilaster up its edge, and the portion of the drapery that remains is but slightly raised from the surface. The carving is in the same archaic style as in those from the stûpas at Jaggaṃyapeta and Garikapāḍ.

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(2) *Chinna laṇḍa dibba.*

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On the east outskirts of the village is a piece of ground under cultivation and planted with mimosa trees. It is known by the above name, and is said to have been the site of the fort of the king who ruled here. A long, low mound—one of the walls of the fort—can be traced for some distance. Large bricks were found while it was being dug into some "thirty years ago."

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IV.—ANCIENT SITES IN THE REPALLE TALUK.

All the sites in this taluk included in the catalogue of Kistna mounds have been examined and notes of them are given below.* The whole of these are ancient village sites. Only a few of them have remains of brick or stone buildings; thus showing that the houses had been constructed of mud. In general, only those which show traces of buildings of interest should be dug into; as where these exist, they act as a guide where to dig and may show whether objects of interest are likely to be found. The popular idea among the people of these districts, that mounds covering the remains of Buddhist buildings are store-houses of treasure, is a myth. These buildings, it is almost needless to say, were temples built to enshrine a relic, which also may have had placed along with it some articles of no great intrinsic value. Treasure would not and has never been found in such places, yet it is widely believed in. This idea is one of the causes which have led to the complete demolition of so many of these stûpas. It must have arisen through exaggerated accounts of golden or other relics which have been found inside them. The mound at Bhattiprolu was believed to contain five crores, the amount being estimated from the fact of a five-headed Naga having once been discovered.* The search for, and finding of the recently-discovered relics, caused

great interest and excitement, even in distant villages, and crowds came and visited the place while the work was proceeding, and discussed the inscribed caskets after they were brought out. Most of those who were not present when the articles were brought to the surface went away convinced that a great treasure had just been dug out. There seems reason to believe that there is much treasure buried in the Kistna district, but it is in secret places, or in places which were once secret, but are now exposed. Such are the sites or foundations of houses which have become ruined or completely razed. These may be found by chance ploughing or digging as at Buddhāni, or as with the find of Roman coins lately made. Numbers of small antique articles of interest must be often found by those digging into these village-sites for earth for brickmaking or other purposes, but their finds are almost invariably kept secret. An instance is the small brass articles from Bauddha vanam at Ghantaśālā. The chances are, however, against anything that might be found in such sites repaying the outlay of a systematic search for it by digging. It is not under every house that treasure is buried, or, if so placed, that it is left there when the house is deserted or destroyed. In places where coins are found scattered about after rain, good results may be obtained by the use of sieves.

(1) *Anantavaram.*

Fifteen miles north by west of Répalle. Yelūpāḍu dibba is a piece of waste ground, over an acre in extent, among the fields on the south of the village. The soil is black mud, and has been extensively dug into for brickmaking. The earth is thickly mixed with broken pottery and bones of animals. There are no traces of buildings visible on the surface, or in the pits dug by the brickmakers. It is an ancient village-site.

(2) *Buddhāni.*

Eighteen miles west by south of Répalle. Jains dibba is the name given to an ancient village-site, over a portion of which the present village is built. The soil is black mud, mixed with broken pottery. Several years ago some copper Buddhist images were found.† The spot pointed out is now cultivated as a garden. In it lies a plain white marble-pier. Adjoining it is a piece of vacant ground with a number of large circular pits dug all over it. Some of these are for storing grain, and others to supply earth for the fields. They have been dug to an extra depth in search of treasure; but nothing, so far as I can learn, was ever found. The earth is mixed with bricks and broken pottery.

† Sewell's Lists, p. 78.

(3) *Chandārōlu.*

Fifteen miles west of Répalle. A large mound on the north of the village, which it has been thought might cover the remains of some ancient building, is a Muhammadan burying-ground, and covered all over with gravestones. No examination of what it may contain can therefore be made. On the south of the village is a low mound running east and west for a quarter of a mile. It is known as Kôṭa dibba and is said to be the remains of a fort. Broken pottery and bricks are found when the earth is disturbed. When any digging is done by the roadside or in the house-yards of the village, pillars and other stones are occasionally turned up. An immense treasure in gold was found at some considerable depth underground when the canal was being cut. It was discovered by chance, as in most cases of treasure-finding, and had probably been buried under a house which had become ruined and its site ploughed over.

(4) *Chandūru.*

Nineteen miles north-west of Répalle. Uppala dibba is a small salt mound by the side of the village near the canal.

(5) *Konḍamuḍi*.

Seventeen miles west by north of Répalle. In the centre of the village is a low open mound measuring about 40 feet across and 6 feet high. It is surrounded by houses. Its section is seen at some places where it has been dug into. The earth is black mud, mixed with pottery and layers of ashes at different levels. It forms the summit of the rising ground on which the village is built. About twenty years ago the ground for some considerable space around it was of the same height, but the mud has gradually been removed from all sides for use on the fields and the cleared ground built on. It is the last remaining portion of the higher ground of the ancient village-site.

(6) *Muṇḍūru*.

Fifteen miles north-west of Répalle. The Pati dibba is a low mound of black mud and broken pottery in the centre of the village. It measures about 150 feet across. It is an ancient village-site.

(7) *Mōrakūru*.

Eighteen miles north-west by west of Répalle. The Kaṇḍepati dibba is a deserted village-site covering about an acre of ground, about half-a-mile to the south of the village. The earth is black and mixed with fragments of pottery. Copper, lead, and occasionally gold and silver coins are found after rain.

(8) *Mūlpūru*.

Fourteen miles north-west of Répalle. The Pati dibba is a mound in the village similar to that at Konḍamuḍi.

(9) *Peravali*.

Eleven miles north-west of Répalle. The Jains dibba in the village is a mound like that at Mūlpūru.

(10) *Pinapāḍu*.

Nineteen miles north-west by north of Répalle. The Mallipati dibba is a deserted village-site near the parchari on the south of the village. It is about a hundred yards square. It has been extensively dug into for brickmaking and encroached on by the surrounding fields, so that its original extent must have been greater. The soil is that usually found on such sites. It is said "that about three years ago" some gold jewellery was found here by some one who was removing earth for the roads.

Order 18 June 9-2 423
J. B. R.

Recorded.

70B
14/6

Usual address

Pub. L. O. 423

8/18/8/92

The Collectors of

~~The District Magistrates of~~

Sept 14/9/92

Anantapur. ♂

North Arcot, Chittoor. ♂

South Arcot, Cuddalore. ♂

Bellary. ♂

South Canara, Mangalore. ♂

Chingleput, Saidupe. ♂

Coimbatore. ♂

Cuddapah. ♂

Ganjam, Chatrapur. ♂

Godavari, Cocanada. ♂

Kistna, Masulipatam. ♂

Kurnool. ♂

~~Madras (when necessary)~~

Madura. ♂

Malabar, Calicut. / 2

Nilgiris, Ootacamund. ♂

Nellore. ♂

Salem. ♂

Tanjore. ♂

Tinnevely. ♂

Trichinopoly. ♂

Vizagapatam. ♂

Recd. 3-10-92
W 234
3-10-92
[Signature]

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Please adopt these
conclusions &
return to me
this by 6/6/96.

READ—the following papers:—

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Madras,
to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 10th May 1892,
No. 210.

I have the honour to submit a progress report on Archæological Survey operations conducted during the last quarter of the year 1891-92.

2. Excavations have been carried out at the Buddhist stûpas of Gudivâda, Bhattiprôlu and Ghantâsâlâ, in the Kistna district. All the catalogued mounds in the Repalle taluk have been inspected, and notes of them made.

3. The Dutch tombs at Masulipatam have been inspected. Drawings have been made of the cemetery and the most interesting of the Dutch tombs at Pulicat.

4. While passing through Bezwâda, the Head Draughtsman observed some excavation being made at a house near the Siva temple. The diggers had found at some feet from the surface a curious monolithic pillar over 6 feet in height, with four Jain figures grouped around, and a triple umbrella over each. I wrote to the Collector to see if it could not be secured for the Museum.

ENCLOSURE.

I.—GUDIVADA.

The taluk head-quarters, 20 miles north-north-west of Masulipatam. The remains of the demolished Buddhist stûpa stand in a low mound named Lañja dibba in the centre of the village. The ground measures about 140 feet square. On the west and south are roads and on the two other sides house-yards enclosed by mud walls built on the slope of the mound. I dug in three narrow trenches at different points and found the rough faces of a solid brick wall at each. The edge of the existing brickwork is close up to the boundaries of the ground, but in its present condition it is impossible to ascertain how much further out the unbroken wall may have extended. The foundations are 3 feet below the level of the surrounding ground level, and the brickwork is from 9 to 11 feet in height. Traces of courses of circular rings of bricks appear all over the centre of the mound, showing that the dome had been constructed of solid brickwork like that at Bhattiprôlu. Four relic caskets seem to have been found during the demolition. From inquiries on the spot, these appear to have occupied similar positions to those recently discovered at the stûpa above referred to. From Mr. Sewell's description, they must have been made of stone slabs like that found in the upper part of the dome of the Bhattiprôlu stûpa. Though the dome had been greatly demolished, there seemed a probability that marble slabs or portions of a rail might exist around its position, underground, as at Amarâvati and elsewhere; but the condition of the mound shows that they must have been all removed.

* Sewell.
Report in G.O., No. 1620, of 1st November 1878, p. 33.
Lists, Vol. 1, p. 52.

2. On the west of the village is a rising piece of ground known as Lamapâdu dibba, the site of the ancient village and fort. Long, low ridges of earth, each about a quarter of a mile in length, can be indistinctly traced; these form a large square, and mark the position of the walls of the fort. The enclosed ground was occupied by the village, which is said to have been a place of importance in the transport of grain between Bezwâda and Ellore. Large numbers of finely-made beads of various material and Buddhist lead coins are found by the villagers after rain. I secured 120 of the latter. They are round and square, and have the lion, dâgoba and other emblems of the Andhra dynasty; some few have legible inscriptions. They are similar to those found at Amarâvati. Fragments of sepulchral urns and grain jars of massive pottery are numerous, and large bricks are turned up in places.

Sketches were made of the fine Jaina image which now stands in the temple.

II.—GHANTASALA.

A village in the Tsallapalli Zemindāri, 13 miles west of Masulipatam. In the fields on the north-east of the village, is a mound known as Lañja dibba. It is about 112 feet in diameter and 23 feet in height. Brickwalls and black mud appear on the surface. The cultivated fields extend close up to, and in parts encroach on the slope of the mound. On the north-west side, part of a palmyra tope grows on the lower part of it. The excavations recently carried out shew the mound to contain the remains of a stūpa, with a rather curious plan. The upper part of the building is away, but the plan showing the arrangement of the walls remains complete (Plate 1). In the centre is a cube of solid brickwork 10 feet square. Enclosing it is a hollow chamber measuring 19 feet square, with walls 3 feet 4 inches thick. Outside it is a circular wall 3 feet 6 inches thick, and 55 feet 10 inches in exterior diameter. Outside it again is another ring of brickwork which has formed the main outer wall of the structure; it is 18 feet 3 inches thick. On its exterior surface are remains of the chunam facing of the wall. Its diameter is 111 feet. Around the base of this wall is a raised circular basement or procession path, 5 feet 7 inches broad and 4 feet 6 inches high; opposite each of the four cardinal points is the projection usually found on South Indian stūpas. Outside the base, and now from 4 to 6 feet underground, are remains of a brick flooring. The two central squares are connected by walls 2 feet 4 inches thick which run out from the centre and corners, parallel to their sides. From the points where these cross walls touch the inner circular wall, they radiate outwards from the centre. The cells or hollow chambers formed by these different walls crossing each other are filled with firmly-packed black mud. The difference in the thickness of the walls is noticeable, and might show that the squares and circles—which are thicker than the others—were carried up as main walls to form storeys. They may, of course, as with the cross walls, have been simply added to strengthen the dome, if the exterior wall was carried up in that form. Only a portion of the central masonry, sufficient to show the plan of the whole, was laid clear. This is indicated by the shaded lines on the sketch of the plan. From the position of the walls excavated, the remainder of this part of the design is evident, and is also confirmed by the traces appearing on the other parts of the surface of the mound.

A trench was carried around the face of the basement, to ascertain if any marble slabs remained in position; but none were so. A marble slab ~~carved~~ with the Sripāda or sacred feet of Buddha, a piece of a carved top rail panel, and a number of plain slabs were found near the south projection. The basement wall is unbroken, except on the east side, and leans forward at a considerable angle. The projection on the north side is nearly complete; on the south a few of the lower courses remain; on the east, it is entirely away; and of that on the west, a few traces remain. A shaft was sunk in the centre of the brickwork. At a depth of 3 feet from the summit was a small well, 9 inches square, filled with earth; the brickwork above it was solid. Among the earth at the top of the well were pieces of a broken chatti, and the following articles which had apparently at one time been inside it:—a small lead coin $\frac{3}{4}$ inch square, a pentagonal blue and white crystal bead $\frac{1}{4}$ inch long and three small beads. Scattered around—and which had evidently been placed with the same purpose as were the gold flowers around the small caskets at Bhattiprōlu—was a quantity of red, white and blue pieces of crystal. Just below these was a small circular red earthenware chatti, 4½ inches in diameter and height (Fig. 1). It has a semi-circular lid with a small knob on the top. It was filled with fine black earth. In the bottom was a small glazed chatti made of a material resembling stoneware. It is 1½ inch

in height, with a diameter of 2½ inches (Fig. 2). In it are—

- two small pieces of bone, or coral (?);
- one white hexagonal crystal bead, $\frac{5}{8}$ inch long;
- five small round beads;
- one flat mother-of-pearl bead;
- six small pearls;

two pieces of yellow crystal;
two bits of gold leaf, one of them cut as a flower with eight petals, and some bits of a mineral like that found in the third casket at Bhattiprōlu (seemingly silicate) (a).

The small well in the centre of the stūpa gradually increased in size, till at 13 feet from the surface it was 2 feet 6 inches square. For the lower half of that depth, it was filled with clay. The well there was closed with a brick. From that point, down to the foundations—26 feet from the summit of the mound—the well was 9 inches and 12 inches square, each alternate course. No other relics were found. Below the foundations, the soil is sand. A number of the marble sculptures and inscriptions which have been removed from the stūpa were found in this and other villages. Drawings of them have been made.

Those at Ghantasālā are—

- A pier carved with a throne and chakra, and four other pieces of piers at Polimēra dibba.
- A pier carved with lotus flowers and other ornament, standing under a tree at Bauddha vanam.
- A plain pier near the south parchari.
- A carved and inscribed (Pali and old Telugu) pier in the Siva temple.
- Square-moulded base in a Brahman pujāri's house near the Siva temple.
- Circular base carved with horses, elephants and other animals at a well.
- Moulded circular base in the Siva temple.
- Umbrella in a Brahman pujāri's house near the Siva temple.
- Panel with rail and figures in the Siva temple.
- Large slab carved with the representation of a stūpa standing by the roadside near the Siva temple.
- Portion of a slab with pilaster and a base in a field near the south-east boundary.

In the Siva temple are four marbles with modern carvings of Hindu deities.

At the village of Rāmanagaram is a large, finely-sculptured slab which was taken from this stūpa. In the centre is a tree with a throne at its base. ~~Worshippers~~ and others mounted on elephants ~~grouped~~ around. At a house in Devarakōta is a large plain slab, and a circular base. The numbers of other marbles which must have existed have all disappeared, and were most probably broken up for lime.

(2) Other Remains in and near Ghantasala.

Bauddha vanam or Dharma kōta is an ancient site, now a piece of waste ground, near the parchari on the extreme northern boundary of the village. Pits have been dug at places by the villagers for mud. In these holes are numbers of large bricks. Other objects are occasionally found by the diggers. In the Siva temple at Ghantasālā is an ancient brass dipa with a Telugu inscription, and a small brass image of Siva, which were found here. A small chakra and a trisūla, each with a pillar base, were dug out of the same place a short time ago. These two last were purchased from the finders.

At the south-west of the parchari on the south boundary of the village is a low mound named Polimēradibba. Some loose bricks appear on the surface, but it has been so much demolished that it is impossible now to ascertain what building has been there. Some marble piers from the stūpa are fixed on it as boundary posts. Near it are some earth pits, which show courses of brickwork at two feet below the surface.

On the south, just over the village boundaries, and situated within those of Devarakōta is a low mound on the banks of a tank. It measures about 70 feet across, and is roughly circular in shape. Brick walls appear at places, and brick debris lie all over it. It has been very much demolished.

(3) Srikākulam.

A village in the Tsallapalli Zemindāri, standing on the banks of the Krishna river, about 19 miles west from Masulipatam. It is mentioned as being the site of the first capital of the Andhra dynasty.* The present village is

entirely modern. There is a large temple, which is considered very sacred. It is stated to have been founded by Anantapāla, prime minister of Sumati Mahārājā, by whom is meant Simuka, the first of the Andhra dynasty. No part of the present structure is so ancient. The earliest is the shrine, which dates from the 11th century. Later grants were made by the Vijayanagar kings and others. A large entrance gopura was built only a few years ago. In front of the temple is a large tank constructed by one of the Zemindars of Devarakōta. No traces of the ancient town are visible. It is said to have been destroyed by shifting of the river channel. Its site is now in the bed of the river. A temple of a much earlier date than the present one is stated to have stood there.

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* G.O., dated 29th May 1889, No. 462, P.

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off-interest are likely to be found. The popular idea among the people of these districts, that mounds covering the remains of Buddhist buildings are store-houses of treasure, is a myth. These buildings, it is almost needless to say, were temples built to enshrine a relic, which also may have had placed along with it some articles of no great intrinsic value. Treasure would not and has never been found in such places, yet it is widely believed in. This idea is one of the causes which have led to the complete demolition of so many of these stūpas. It must have arisen through exaggerated accounts of golden or other relics which have been found inside them. The mound at Bhattiprolu was believed to contain five crores, the amount being estimated from the fact of a five-headed Naga having once been discovered.* The search for, and finding of the recently-discovered relics, caused

* Boswell's report—G.O., dated 14th December 1871, No. 2108.

great interest and excitement, even in distant villages, and crowds came and visited the place while the work was proceeding, and discussed the inscribed caskets after they were brought out. Most of those who were not present when the articles were brought to the surface went away convinced that a great treasure had just been dug out. There seems reason to believe that there is much treasure buried in the Kistna district, but it is in secret places, or in places which were once secret, but are now exposed. Such are the sites or foundations of houses which have become ruined or completely razed. These may be found by chance ploughing or digging as at Buddhāni, or as with the find of Roman coins lately made. Numbers of small antique articles of interest must be often found by those digging into these village-sites for earth for brickmaking or other purposes, but their finds are almost invariably kept secret. An instance is the small brass articles from Baudha vanam at Ghantāśālā. The chances are, however, against anything that might be found in such sites repaying the outlay of a systematic search for it by digging. It is not under every house that treasure is buried, or, if so placed, that it is left there when the house is deserted or destroyed. In places where coins are found scattered about after rain, good results may be obtained by the use of sieves.

(1) Anantavaram.

Fifteen miles north by west of Repalle. Yelūlapādu dibba is a piece of waste ground, over an acre in extent, among the fields on the south of the village. The soil is black mud, and has been extensively dug into for brickmaking. The earth is thickly mixed with broken pottery and bones of animals. There are no traces of buildings visible on the surface, or in the pits dug by the brickmakers. It is an ancient village-site.

(2) Buddhāni.

Eighteen miles west by south of Repalle. Jains dibba is the name given to an ancient village-site, over a portion of which the present village is built. The soil is black mud, mixed with broken pottery. Several years ago some copper Buddhist images were found.† The spot pointed out is now cultivated as a garden. In

† Sewell's Lists, p. 78.

it lies a plain white marble-pier. Adjoining it is a piece of vacant ground with a number of large circular pits dug all over it. Some of these are for storing grain, and others to supply earth for the fields. They have been dug to an extra depth in search of treasure; but nothing, so far as I can learn, was ever found. The earth is mixed with bricks and broken pottery.

(3) Chanderlu.

Fifteen miles west of Repalle. A large mound on the north of the village, which it has been thought might cover the remains of some ancient building, is a Muhammadan burying-ground, and covered all over with gravestones. No examination of what it may contain can therefore be made. On the south of the village is a low mound running east and west for a quarter of a mile. It is known as Kōṭa dibba and is said to be the remains of a fort. Broken pottery and bricks are found when the earth is disturbed. When any digging is done by the roadside or in the house-yards of the village, pillars and other stones are occasionally turned up. An immense treasure in gold was found at some considerable depth underground when the canal was being cut. It was discovered by chance, as in most cases of treasure-finding, and had probably been buried under a house which had become ruined and its site ploughed over.

(4) Chaṇḍūru.

Nineteen miles north-west of Repalle. Uppala dibba is a small salt mound by the side of the village near the canal.

(5) Koṇḍamudi.

Seventeen miles west by north of Repalle. In the centre of the village is a low open mound measuring about 40 feet across and 6 feet high. It is surrounded by houses. Its section is seen at some places where it has been dug into. The earth is black mud, mixed with pottery and layers of ashes at different levels. It forms the summit of the rising ground on which the village is built. About twenty years ago the ground for some considerable space

around it was of the same height, but the mud has gradually been removed from all sides for use on the fields and the cleared ground built on. It is the last remaining portion of the higher ground of the ancient village-site.

(6) *Maṇḍūru*.

Fifteen miles north-west of Repalle. The Pati dibba is a low mound of black mud and broken pottery in the centre of the village. It measures about 150 feet across. It is an ancient village-site.

(7) *Mōrakūru*.

Eighteen miles north-west by west of Repalle. The Kandeapati dibba is a deserted village-site covering about an acre of ground, about half-a-mile to the south of the village. The earth is black and mixed with fragments of pottery. Copper, lead, and occasionally gold and silver coins are found after rain.

(8) *Mūlpūru*.

Fourteen miles north-west of Repalle. The Pati dibba is a mound in the village similar to that at Kondamudi.

(9) *Peravali*.

Eleven miles north-west of Repalle. The Jains dibba in the village is a mound like that at Mūlpūru.

(10) *Pinaṇḍu*.

Nineteen miles north-west by north of Repalle. The Mallipati dibba is a deserted village-site near the parchari on the south of the village. It is about a hundred yards square. It has been extensively dug into for brickmaking and encroached on by the surrounding fields, so that its original extent must have been greater. The soil is that usually found on such sites. It is said "that about three years ago" some gold jewellery was found here by some one who was removing earth for the roads.

Public DEPARTMENT.

22/4/92 No 270 Pros.
1/11/78 No 1620 —
14/12/71 No 2408 Revue

From The Superintendent.
Archaeological Survey

No. 210

Dated 10th } May 18 92
Received 14th }
Regd 16th }
Enclosures 2

SUBJECT.

Submits a progress report
on archaeological operations carried
during the last months of 1891 —

10. Pinapadi

19 miles north-west by north of
Repalle. The ~~M~~allipati dibba is
a deserted village site near the
parchari on the south of the village.
It is about a hundred yards square.
It has been extensively dug into
for brickmaking, and encroached
on by the surrounding fields,
so that its original extent must
have been greater. The soil is
that usually found on such sites.
It is said that "about three years
ago" some gold jewellery was
found here by someone who
was removing earth for the
roads.



A. C. C.
Superintendent
Archaeol. Survey

and the cleared ground built on. It is the last remaining portion of the higher ground of the ancient village site.

6. Mandūru

15 miles north west of Repalle. The Pati dibba is a low mound of black mud and broken pottery in the centre of the village. It measures about 150 feet across. It is an ancient village site.

7. Mōra hūru

18 miles north west by west of Repalle. The Kandepati dibba is a deserted village site covering about an acre of ground, about half a mile to the south of the village. The earth is black, and mixed with fragments of pottery. Copper, lead, and occasionally gold and silver coins are found after rain.

8. Mūlpūru

14 miles north west of Repalle. The Pati dibba is a mound in the village, similar to that at Kondamudi.

9. Peravali

11 miles north-west of Repalle. The Jains' dibba in the village is a mound like that at Mūlpūru.

in most cases of treasure finding, and had probably been buried under a house which had become ruined and its site ploughed over.

4. Chandūru.

19 miles north west of Repalle. Uppala dibba is a small salt mound by the side of the village near the canal.

5. Kondamudi

17 miles west by north of Repalle. In the centre of the village is a low open mound measuring about 40 feet across and 6 feet high. It is surrounded by houses. Its section is seen at some places where it has been dug into. The earth is black mud, mixed with pottery, and layers of ashes at different levels. It forms the summit of the rising ground on which the village is built. About twenty years ago, the ground for some considerable space around it was of the same height, but the mud has gradually been removed from all sides for use on the fields, and

21.
learn, was ever found. The earth is mixed with bricks and broken pottery.

3. Chandavolu.

15 miles west of Repalle. A large mound on the north of the village, which it has been thought might cover the remains of some ancient building, - is a Mha - mmadar burying ground, and covered all over with gravestones. No examination of what it may contain, can therefore be made. On the south of the village is a low mound running east and west for a quarter of a mile. It is known as Kōtā dibba, and is said to be the remains of a fort. Broken pottery and bricks are found when the earth is disturbed. When any digging is done by the road-side or in the house-yards of the village, pillars and other stones are occasionally turned up. An immense treasure in gold was found at some considerable depth underground when the canal was being cut. It was discovered by chance, as is

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black mud, and has been extensively dug into for brickmaking. The earth is thickly mixed with broken pottery and bones of animals. There are no traces of buildings visible on the surface, or in the pits dug by the brickmakers. It is an ancient village site.

2. Buddhāni.

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Jewell's List Copper Buddhist
p. 78. images were found. (6)
The spot pointed

out, is now cultivated as a garden. In it lies a plain white marble pier. Adjoining it, is a piece of vacant ground with a number of large circular pits dug all over it. Some of these are for storing grain, and others to supply earth for the fields. They have been dug to an extra depth in search of treasure, but nothing so far as I can learn,

22.
21.

exposed. Such are the sites or foundations of houses which have become ruined or completely razed. These may be found by chance ploughing or digging, as at Buddhāni; or as with the finds of Roman coins lately made. Numbers of small antique articles of interest must be often found by those digging into these village sites for earth for brickmaking or other purposes, but their finds are almost invariably kept secret. An instance is the small brass articles from Bauddha vanam at Ghan-taśālā. The chances are however, against any thing that might be found in such sites, requiring the aid of a systematic search for it by digging. It is not under every house that treasure is buried, or if so placed, that it is left there when the house is deserted or destroyed. In places where coins are found scattered about after rain, good results may be obtained by the use of sieves.

1. Anantavaram.
15 miles north by west of
Kepalle. Melūlapādev dibba is
a piece of waste grounds, over an acre
in extent, among the fields on the
south of the village. The soil is black

20.

is widely believed in. This idea is one of the causes which have led to the complete demolition of so many of these stupas. It must have arisen through exaggerated accounts of golden or other relics which have been found inside them. The mound at Bhāṭṭiprāṇ was believed to contain five crosses, the amount being estimated from the fact of a five-headed staga having once been discovered. The

(5) Boswell's
report. G.O. dated
14th Decr 1871. No.
2108.

search for, and
finding of the
recently discovered
relics caused
great interest

and excitement, even in distant villages, and crowds came and visited the place while the work was proceeding, and discussed the inscribed caskets after they were brought out. Most of those who were not present when the articles were brought to the surface went away convinced that a great treasure had just been dug out. There seems reason to believe, that there is much treasure buried in the Kistna district, but it is in secret places, or in places which were once secret, but are now

IV. Ancient sites in the Repalle
Taluk.

(4) G.O. dated 29th May 1889, No. 462, P. included in the catalogue of his mounds have been examined and notes of them are given below. (4) The whole of these are ancient village sites. Only a few of them have remains of brick or stone buildings, thus shewing that the houses had been constructed of mud. In general, only those which shew traces of buildings of interest, should be dug into, as where these exist, they act as a guide where to dig, and may shew whether objects of interest are likely to be found. The popular idea among the people of these districts, that mounds covering the remains of Buddhist buildings are stone houses of treasure, is a myth. These buildings it is almost needless to say, were temples built to enshrine a relic, which also, may have had placed along with it some articles of no great intrinsic value. Treasure would not and has never been found in such places, yet it is south of the village. one

18.
the east of the stupa, is the camping
töpe. It is a slightly raised piece
of ground known as chinna lanja
dibba. From the name, and the
presence of bricks in the soil, it
has probably been the site of a
Buddhist building. A legend
is current to the effect, that a
dancing girl had her residence
here; the large mound was the
temple where she worshipped. There
is also a story of a "treasure" having
been found many years ago at
some spot in it; and a stone
box or casket similar to the large
ones recently taken from the centre
of the large stupa.

3. Vikramārka kōta dibba.

On the east outskirts of the
village, is a piece of ground under
cultivation and planted with
mimosa trees. It is known by the
above name, and is said to have
been the site of the fort of the king
who ruled here. A long low mound,
- one of the walls of the fort - can be
traced for some distance. Large
bricks were found while it was
being dug into, some "thirty years
ago."

These indications would seem to show that only the panels at the four cardinal projections of the basement were sculptured. The line of slabs which surrounded, and which were removed from ~~around~~ the face of the basement would be plain, with the exception of a pilaster up one edge of each. That these panels, and not those of the rail, were the marbles removed and broken up for use in the canal seems certain. An old ^{Mr} Khatri and others who removed these stones, stated that they were plain slabs, about 4 feet square, standing with their tops about a yard underground. They had been removed from all around the wall. On seeing the portion of the south-east basement uncovered, they recognized it as the position these slabs had occupied. These particulars agree with the depth of the basement underground, and the size of the slab now found. The portion of the rail also uncovered, shows that such slabs could not have been used in its construction.

2. Chinnā lāṅjā dibba.

Immediately on the

were dug on the west side, but though some courses of the basement remain, and several small plain slabs - splayed on one edge - were found outside it, no trace of the rail appeared. On the south, digging could not be carried out, on account of the proximity of a tank.

The space between the rail piers is about half that of Amarāvati, and I think the panels can hardly have been ^{carved} ~~carved~~ like those from that Stūpa. They have probably been of plain lenticular shape like those at Sāṅghī. It is difficult to believe that all the large top panels - which would be sculptured - have gone; some must surely be lying under the earth bank outside the position of the rail. The figure panel is checked on one side, with a pilaster up its edge, and the position of the drapery that remains is but slightly raised from the surface. The carving is in the same archaic style as in those from the stūpas at Jaggayapīṭa and Garikapīṭa.

Connected by a cross cut. At this point some courses of the basement and of the north projection remain in position. I found here two pieces of a marble umbrella having a curve with a radius of 1 foot 6 inches; a small piece of a pilaster base from a slab; a pilaster capital with horses and riders; and the half of what has been a large slab carved with the lower portion of a draped figure. At a distance of 8 feet 4 inches from the basement, I found the remains of six marble bases of the rail standing in position. They measure 1 foot 11 inches by 12 inches, by 1 foot 10 inches in height, with a space between each, of 1 foot 7 inches. Some of them have a portion of the lower disc-shaped socket-hole for the rail panel. They are sunk 1 foot 6 inches below the brick floor, and rest on a broad slab of marble laid longitudinally below them. Outside is a low brick wall. The ground was opened up for a few feet around these, but none others were seen there, nor any of the large panels which would surmount the rail. Similar trenches were

points around the exterior of the building. The brick basement or procession path at the south-east quadrant is unbroken; but no marble slabs remain against it. The face of the dome also, at this point remains intact for a height of over 5 feet. A trench radiating outwards, found the brick floor outside the basement, and the lower courses of a wall; but only some chips of marble were picked up at the position of the rail. At the position of the north-east quadrant, the brick flooring between the basement and the rail remains. The basement itself has been removed, and a considerable portion of the brickwork of the dome inside the line of it. The mound which covers the remains of the central building, is surrounded by another ring of mound on every side except the east. This outer ring is the earth thrown up during some of the previous excavations. On the north side, two parallel trenches were carried outwards from the position of the basement through this outer bank. These trenches were then connected

large temple, which is considered very sacred. It is stated to have been founded by Anantapāla, prime minister of Sumati mahārājā, by whom is meant Simuka the first of the Andhra dynasty. No part of the present structure is so ancient. The earliest is the shrine, which dates from the 11th century. Later grants were made by the Vijayanagar kings and others. A large entrance gōpura was built only a few years ago. In front of the temple is a large tank constructed by one of the Zemindars of Devarakōṭa. No traces of the ancient town are visible. It is said to have been destroyed by shifting of the river channel. Its site is now in the bed of the river. A temple of a much earlier date than the present one is stated to have stood there.

III. Bhāṭṭiprōlu.

In my letter No. 97 dated 22nd February 1892, I gave an account of the inscribed caskets and other relics which had been found in the centre of the dome of the stūpa. Some trenches were dug at points

At the south-west of the parchari on the south boundary of the village, is a low mound named Polimēradibba. Some loose bricks appear on the surface, but it has been so much demolished that it is impossible now to ascertain what building has been there. Some marble piers from the stūpa are fixed on it as boundary posts. Near it are some earth pits, which show courses of brickwork at two feet below the surface.

On the south, just over the village boundaries, and situated within those of Devarakōṭa is a low mound on the banks of a tank. It measures about 70 feet across, and is roughly circular in shape. Brick walls appear at places, and brick debris lie all over it. It has been very much demolished.

3. Śrīkākulam.

A village in the Tsallapalli Zemindari, standing on the banks of the Krishna river, about 14 miles west from Masulipatam. It is

(3) Bourges.
amar. and.
Jagg. Stūpas
p. 3.

mentioned as being the site of the first Capital of the Andhra dynasty. (3)
The present village is entirely modern. There is a large

175
11.
is a tree with a throne at its base.
Worshippers and others mounted
on elephants are grouped around.
At a house in Devarakōta is a
large plain slab, and a circular base.
The numbers of other marbles which
must have existed, have all dis-
appeared, and most probably
broken up for lime.

2. Other remains in and near
Ghantāśālā.

Paundalha vanam or Dharma
kōta is an ancient site, now a piece
of waste ground, near the parchari
on the extreme northern boundary
of the village. Pits have been dug
at places by the villagers, for
mud. In these holes are numbers
of large bricks. Other objects are
occasionally found by the diggers.
In the Śiva temple at Ghantāśālā
is an ancient brass dipa with a
Telugu inscription, and a small
brass image of Śiva, which were found
here. A small chakra and a trisūla,
each with a pillar base, were dug out
of the same place a short time ago.
These two last were purchased
from the finders.

Incl. to No. 210
10-5-92.

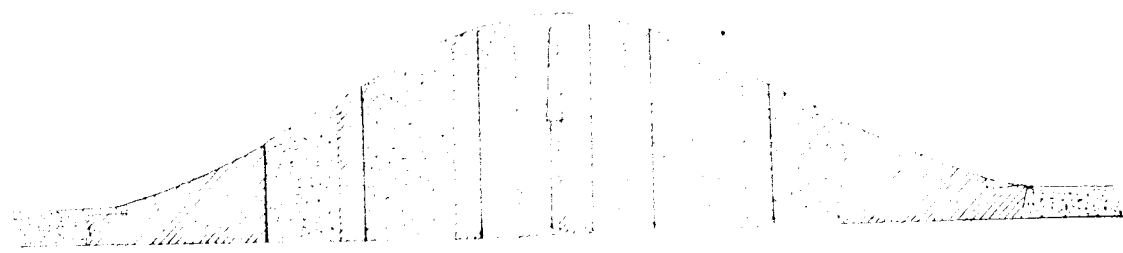


Fig. 1 Section

Palmyra Tope

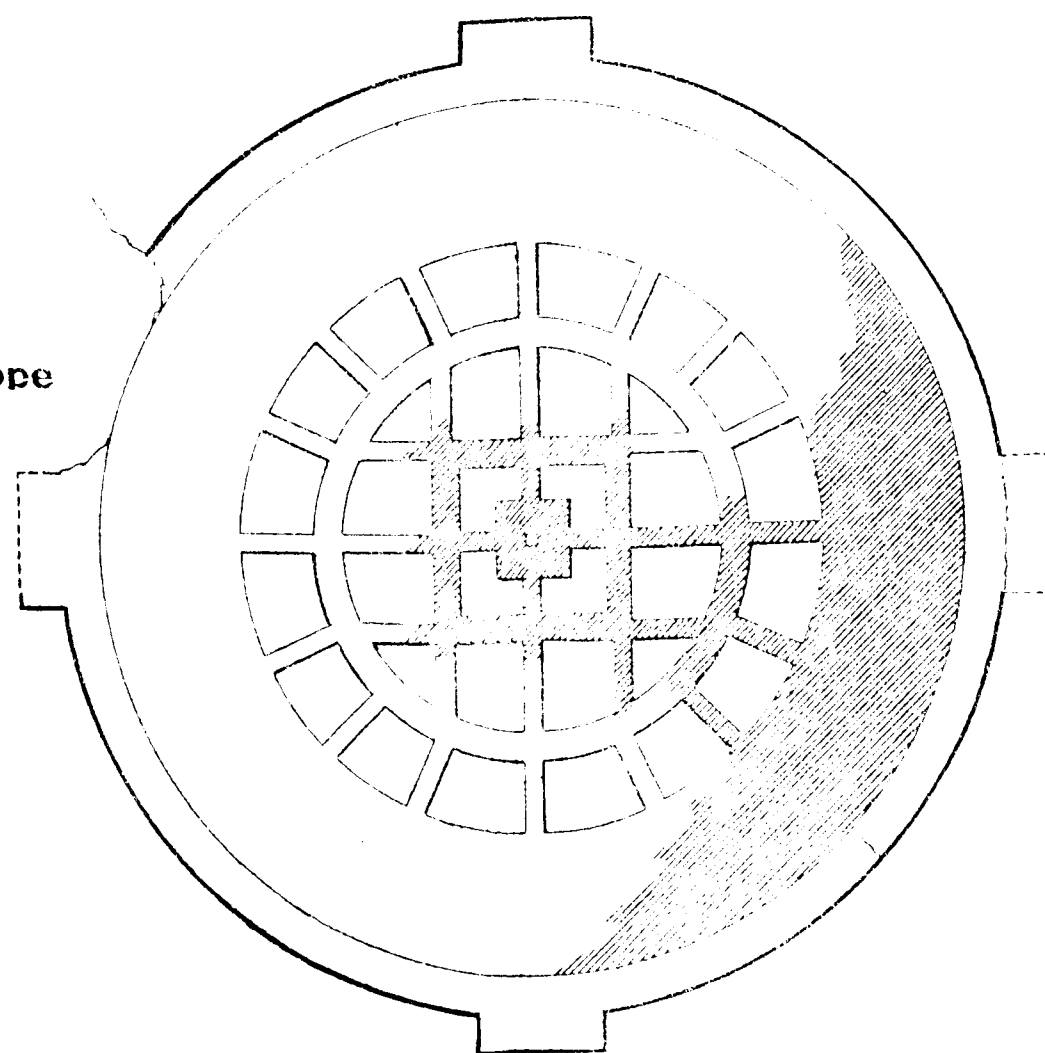


Fig. 2 Plan

Scale of 10 5 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 140 Feet

ornament, standing under a tree
at Buddha vanam.

A plain pier near the south
parchari.

A carved and inscribed (Pali and
old Telugu) pier in the Siva temple.

Square moulded base in a Brahman
pujari's house near the Siva temple.

Circular base carved with horses,
elephants and other animals, at a
well.

Moulded circular base, in the
Siva temple.

Umbrella in a Brahman pujari's
house near the Siva temple

Panel with pail and figures,
in the Siva temple.

Large slab carved with the
representation of a stupa,
standing by the roadside
near the Siva temple.

Portion of a slab with pilaster and
base, in a field near the south-east
boundary.

In the Siva temple are four
marbles with modern carvings
of Hindu deities.

At the village of Ramanagarani
is a large finely sculptured
slab, which was taken from
this stupa. In the centre is

(2)

These two caskets with their contents have been handed to the collector of the Kistna district, ~~the collector of the Kistna district~~ the Zamindar of Devarakōṭa, whose property the mound is, and with whose permission the excavation was carried out.

9.
that found in the third casket as Pshattiprotu (seemingly silicate).
~~These two caskets with their contents have been handed to the collector of the Kistna district, the collector of the Kistna district~~
the Zamindar of Devarakōṭa, whose property the mound is. The small well in the centre of the stūpa gradually increased in size, till at 13 feet from the surface, it was 2 feet 6 inches square. For the lower half of that depth, it was filled with clay. The well there, was closed with a brick. From that point, down to the foundations - 26 feet from the summit of the mound - the well was 9 inches and 12 inches square, each alternate course. No other relics were found. Below the foundations, the soil is sand. A number of the marble sculptures and inscriptions which have been removed from the stūpa, were found in this and other villages. Drawings of them have been made. Those at Ghantakālā are -

A pier carved with a throne and Chakra, and four other pieces of piers at Tolimēradibba.

A pier carved with lotus flowers and other ornaments.

It has a semicircular lid with a small knob on the top. It was filled with fine black earth. In the bottom was a small glazed chatti made of a material resembling stone ware. It is $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches in height, with a diameter of $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches, (fig. 2). In it are -

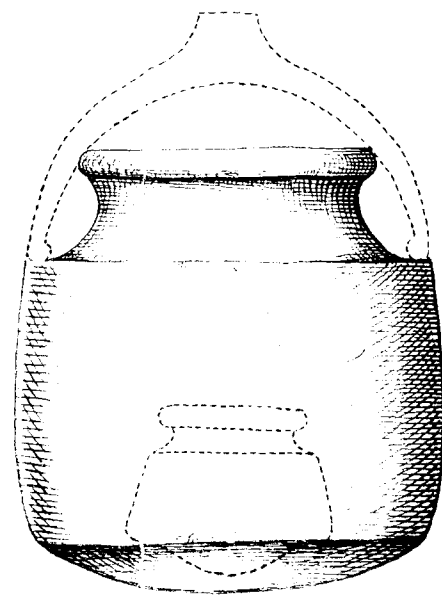


Fig. 1

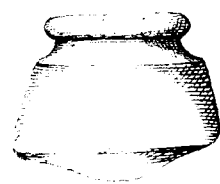


Fig. 2

- 2 small pieces of bone, or coral(?)
- 1 white hexagonal crystal bead, $\frac{5}{8}$ inch long.
- 5 small round beads.
- 1 flat mother-of-pearl bead.
- 6 small pearls.
- 2 pieces of yellow crystal,
- 2 bits of gold leaf - one of them cut as a flower with eight petals; and some bits of a mineral like that.

9.
and leans forward at a considerable angle. The projection on the north side is nearly complete; on the south a few of the lower courses remain; on the east, it is entirely away; and of that on the west, a few traces remain. A shaft was sunk in the centre of the brickwork. At a depth of 3 feet from the summit, was a small well 9 inches square, filled with earth; the brickwork above it was solid. Among the earth at the top of the well were pieces of a broken Chatti, and the following articles which had apparently at one time been inside it, — a small lead coin $\frac{3}{8}$ the inch square, a pentagonal blue and white crystal bead $\frac{9}{16}$ the inch long, and three small beads. Scattered around — and which had evidently been placed with the same purpose, as were the gold flowers around the small Caskets at Bhattiprolu — was a quantity of red, white, and blue pieces of crystal. Just below these, was a small circular red earthenware Chatti $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and height. (fig. 1.)

6.
Squares and circles — which are thicker than the others — were carried up as main walls to form storeys. They may of course, as with the cross walls, have been simply added to strengthen the dome, if the exterior wall was carried up in that form. Only a portion of the central masonry, sufficient to show the plan of the whole, was laid clear. This is indicated by the shaded lines on the sketch of the plan. From the position of the walls excavated, the remainder of this part of the design is evident, and is also confirmed by the traces appearing on the other parts of the surface of the mound.
A trench was carried around the face of the basement, to ascertain if any marble slabs remained in position; but none were so. A marble slab covered with the *Śrīpāda* or sacred feet of Buddha, a piece of a carved top rail panel, and a number of plain slabs were found near the south projection. The basement wall is unbroken, except on the east side, and

it again, is another ring of brickwork which has formed the main outer wall of the structure: it is 18 feet 3 inches thick. On its exterior surface are remains of the Churnam facing of the wall. Its diameter is 111 feet. Around the base of this wall, is a raised circular base or procession path, 5 feet 7 inches broad, and 4 feet 6 inches high: opposite each of the four cardinal points is the projection usually found on South Indian stupas. Outside the base, and now from 4 to 6 feet underground, are remains of a brick flooring. The two central squares are connected by walls 2 feet 11 inches thick, which run out from the centre and corners parallel to their sides. From the points where these cross walls touch the inner circular wall, they radiate outwards from the centre. The cells or hollow chambers formed by these different walls crossing each other, are filled with firmly packed black mud. The difference in the thickness of the walls is noticeable and might show that the same

II. — Ghantāśālā

A village in the ⁱⁿ Saallāpalli district Lemindāri, 13 miles west of Masali. Siv-patam. In the fields on the north-east of the village, is a mound known as ~~Lanjā~~ Lānjā dibba. It is about 112 feet in diameter, and 23 feet in height. Brick walls and black mud appear on the surface. The cultivated fields extend close up to, and in parts encroach on the slope of the mound.

On the north-west side, part of a palmyra tree grows on the lower part of it. The excavations recently carried out, shew the mound to contain the remains of a stupa, with a rather curious plan. The upper part of the building is away, but the plan shewing the arrangement of the walls remains complete. (Plate 1). In the centre is a cube of solid brickwork 10 feet square. Enclosing it, is a hollow chamber measuring 19 feet square, with walls 3 feet 4 inches thick. Outside it, is a circular wall 3 feet 6 inches thick, and 55 feet 10 inches in diameter. Outside it

fort. Long low ridges of earth, each about a quarter of a mile in length, can be indistinctly traced; these form a large square, and mark the position of the walls of the fort. The enclosed ground was occupied by the village, which is said to have been a place of importance in the transport of grain between Berwada and Ellore. Large numbers of finely made beads of various materials, and Buddhist lead coins were found by the villagers after rain. I secured 120 of the latter. They are round and square, and have the lion, dagoba and other emblems of the Andhra dynasty; some few have legible inscriptions. They are similar to those found at Amaravati. Fragments of sepulchral urns and grain jars of massive pottery, are numerous, and large bricks are turned up in places.

Sketches were made of the fine Jaina image, which now stands in the temple.

height. Traces of courses of circular rings of bricks appear all over the centre of the mound, shewing that the dome had been constructed of solid brickwork like that at Bhattiprolu. Four relie caskets seem to have been found during the demolition.

(1) Sewell.
Report in G.O.
No. 1620 of 1st
Nov. 1878, P. 33.
Dist. Vol. 1. p. 52.

From enquiries on the spot, these appear to have occupied similar positions to those recently discovered

at the Stupa above referred to. From Mr. Sewell's description, they must have been made of stone slabs, like that found in the upper part of the dome of the Bhattiprolu stupa. Though the dome had been greatly demolished, there seemed a probability that marble slabs or portions of a rail might exist around its position, underground, as at Amaravati and elsewhere; but the

Condition of the mound shews that they must have been all removed.

2. On the west of the village is a rising piece of ground known as Lamapadu Dibba, the site of the ancient village and fort.

Enclosure.

I - Gudivāda.

The taluk headquarters, 20 miles north-north-west of Masulipatam. The remains of demolished Buddhist stupā stands in a low mound named *Sanja dibba* in the centre of the village. The ground measures about 140 feet square. On the west and south are roads, and on the two other sides house yards enclosed by mud walls built on the slope of the mound. I dug in three narrow trenches at different points, and found the rough faces of a solid brick wall at each. The edge of the existing brickwork is close up to the boundaries of the ground, but in its present condition it is impossible to ascertain how much further out the unbroken wall may have extended. The foundations are 3 feet below the level of the surrounding ground level, and the brickwork is from 4 to 6 feet in height.

1. While passing through Perwāda, the Ikeda draughtsman observed some excavation being made at a house near the Bida temple. The diggers had found at some 2 feet from the surface, a curious monolithic pillar over 6 feet in height, with four Jain figures grouped around, and a triple umbrella over each. I wrote to the Collector to see if it could not be secured for the Museum.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

M. S.

Sept 10/10

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

Madras

10th May 1892

No. *211*

From

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

*Superintendent, Archaeological Survey,
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEYOR TO THE GOVT. OF MADRAS*

To

*The Chief Secretary
to Government.*

SIR,

I have the honour to submit ^(progress) a report
on Archaeological survey operations
conducted during the last quarter
of the year 1891-92.

2. Excavations have been carried
out at the Buddhist stupas of
Tulivada, Bhuttipala, and Thantasa
in the Krishna District. All the cele-
brated mounds in the Koppala taluk
have been inspected, and notes of
them made.

3. The Dutch temples at
Masripalam have been inspected.
Drawings have been made of
them, and the most interest-
ing of the Dutch temple at Tulivada

[illegible]