Public Dept

Offl: Memo^m No. 1262
Simla 11th July 1892.

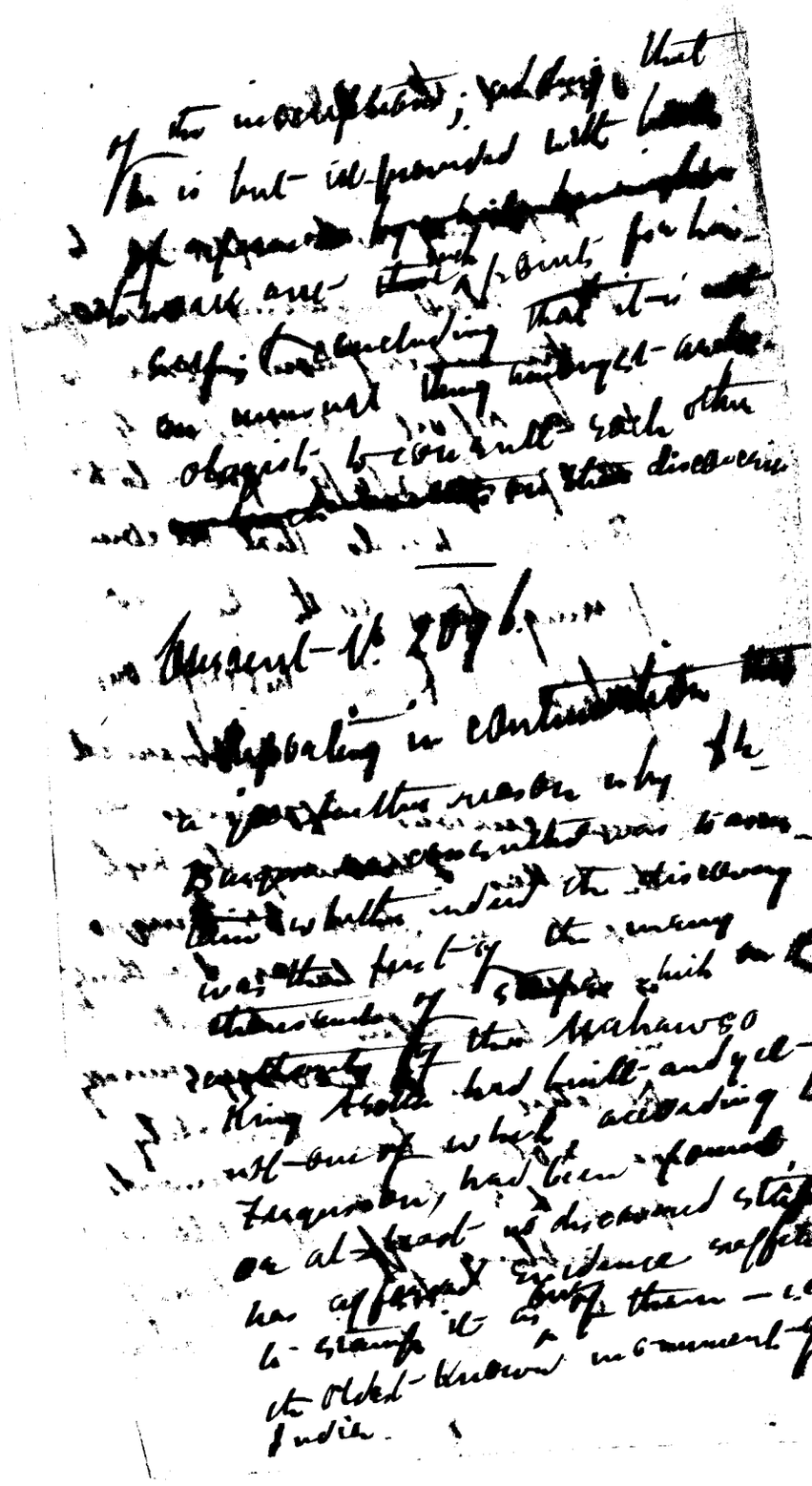
The Supt: Archl: Survey is requested to explain at ~~a very early date~~ for the information of Govt: by memorandum under what heads copies of the inscriptions referred to in his report recorded in G.O. dy 22.4.92 No. 270. got into Doctor Burgess' hands.

/from orders/
S.
29 July

The Supt: Archl: Survey

I. STATIONERY

JDB.
29/VII.



Brunel-Ms 2026

Replying with reference to
Capt Head enquiring how copies
of the inscriptions referred to
in his report recorded on Q.
dd 27th Sept 22/9/92 got into Mr
Burgess's hands, that on com-
paring them with the few
published & some inscriptions
which he possesses he observed
some curious differences in
the letters & knowing the high
repute in which Mr Burgess
is held as a scholar, & authority
in such matters & the interest
he takes in archaeology generally
he wrote to him privately
first & sent him afterwards
a rubbing off the stone,
in view to the elucidation of
certain points for determi-
ning the age, value, character

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

Madras.

8th August 1892

CHIEF SECRETARY, 8 AUG 92 GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

No. 297.

From

A. REA, Esquire, M R.A.S.,

~~Archæological Surveyor to the Govt. of Madras,~~

To SUPERINTENDENT, ARCHÆOLOGL. SURVEY, MADRAS.

The Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir,

With reference to Memorandum in the Public Department, No. 1262, dated 29th July 1892, I have the honour to state that copies of the inscriptions were first sent officially to Government. On after-wards studying the inscriptions, and comparing them with such part of the published Kadaba inscriptions as I have in office, I observed some various differences in the letters.

2.— Knowing the high position Dr. Burgess holds as a scholar and authority in such matters, and the interest that he takes in all questions of Indian Archæology; and wishing to have his opinion [illegible] of what I had [illegible] I wrote to him [illegible] I received a reply from him [illegible] I have [illegible]

and so get the benefit of an experience which, situated as I am, I could not otherwise obtain for the elucidation of some points essential to the determining the age and character of the building, I mentioned the discovery in a private letter. So everything depends on the shape of the letters, I subsequently gave him another rubbing of the stone, which I had made for my own use, to let him see what they were like.

3— In the preparation of detailed reports especially on such a unique kind as the present, which are to be posthumous in their form — to ascertain whether similar remains have ever been described and if so, to compare with them and get the necessary information as to age, value, and other particulars — it is indispensible that works of reference should be consulted. I have always left the want of such works ready to hand, and perhaps more so than at present; but such works are expensive, and, with a small salary which barely suffices for my personal necessities, I have no means to purchase. I have thus to endeavour to get what information I can, by consulting those who may possess such works, or in whatever other way I find possible.

4: Even with [redacted] available, it [redacted]

happen that some point is not altogether clear. It is usual among archaeologists in such a case, to consult or get the opinions of others who may have better means of getting at the truth. In the present case, I had no available means of comparing the collective remains — inscriptions, relics, and building — with such few others of the kind that I understood had been found in Bengal and other places, and forming correct deductions as to their comparative age, and value for historical or archaeological purposes.

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

SUPERINTENDENT,
ARCHÆOLOGL. SURVEY, MADRAS.

CURRENT No.

[9] Public (1892) DEPARTMENT.

C No 2096/92
29/7/92 To 626/8 Pdc

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

2096 Madras.

8th August. 1892.

No. 293.

CHIEF SECRETARY
09 AUG 92
GOVERNMENT - MADRAS

From

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

~~ARCHÆOLOGICAL SURVEYOR TO THE GOVT. OF MADRAS,~~
SUPERINTENDENT,
ARCHÆOLOGL. SURVEY, MADRAS.

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No. 290, dated 7th instant, I have the honour to state there was yet another reason why this was a special case in which the authoritative opinion of scholars should be obtained. It is historically stated, on the authority of the Mahawanso, that king Asoka built many thousands of stupas in India; yet, according to Fergusson, not one of them has been found, or, at least no discovered stupa has produced sufficient evidences to shew that it was one of them. The Bhattiprolu stupa has yielded Asoka inscriptions from the very centre of the masonry. There was thus very sufficient reason for

From The Superintendent
Archæological Survey.

No. 290.

Dated 7th
Received 8th
Rgd. 9th
} August 1892

Enclosures 1

SUBJECT.

Stating that copies of the inscriptions were first sent officially to Govt. and that on studying the inscriptions & comparing them with such few of the published Asoka inscriptions as he had in office he observed some curious differences in the letters.

that if man came here first & he discovered these buildings, and if so, one of the oldest known monuments in India. Before however asserting so, it was incumbent to see in the first instance, whether authorities would, on the evidence forthcoming, subscribe me.

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

F. Fawcett

SUPERINTENDENT,
ARCHÆOLOGL. SURVEY, MADRAS.

CURRENT No. 9096

Cur 2086/92.

[9]

Public Department.

HHH.

From The Supdt
Archaeological Survey
Madras.

Submitted. The object of sending the inscriptions was all along apparent. Mr: Rea does not seem to doubt his authority to distribute copies of inscriptions he comes across in the course of his official duties.

JDB. 17/8

Mr. Rea appears to have acted in good faith but he should have asked the permission of Govt. before sending to D. B. even for the purpose which he states, what were the instructions of Govt.

Order, 23rd Augt. 92 No. 580

18 Augt

The Supdt: Archl. Survey will be reminded that [Mr Rea's] letters comes on the footing of Govt which provides for their publication, and it is not right or fitting that they should be communicated even to scholars, - & in such a way as to forestall such publications. by the Archl: Survey

Instructions directing such communications to be sent to [Dr Hultzsch] the Govt. Epigraphist.

HCR
19 Augt.

Forwarded

[illegible]

23 Augt

[illegible]

1.1.2878

No. 293

Dated 8
Received 9 } Augt 1892
Enclosures ——

SUBJECT.

In continuation of his previous letter re inscriptions &c.

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED 18 , No. , MISCELLANEOUS.

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

Lr to Supdt Archl Survey dated 8th Augt 92 forwarding copies of inscriptions

Statement with ditto.

Order of Government. A A

Letter of Government.

Statement with ditto

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

N.B.—
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.

BACK PAPER, No. OF 18

FURTHER PAPER, No. OF 18

ORDINARY, MS.

Public Department.
G.O., Dated 23 Aug 92
No. 580

When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Reminds the Supt. with remarks
Arch. Survey, that his
discoveries are the pro-
perty of Govt. & directing
that inscriptions dis-
covered should be in
future sent to the
Govt. Epigraphist—