

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th July 1871.*

No. 58. Read the following letter from the Officiating Collector of the Kistna District, to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Nizampatam, 24th June 1871, No. 1,821 :—

With reference to G. O. dated 7th June 1871, Revenue Department, in regard to the archæological remains of the Kistna, I have the honour to suggest that, if further investigations are intended, it will be desirable that Government should issue instructions for the protection of the places of interest. Sir Walter Elliot refers to the remarkable mound at Bhattiprole, covering the ruins of an ancient Buddhist dehgope. This mound has been resorted to, for long I believe, by the Department Public Works for the old bricks it contains, which are used for road material and other purposes. I am informed that some years ago Captain Vibart discovered among the ruins a stone-casket containing a crystal phial with some seed pearls, etc. The excavations have been resumed lately, and gunpowder is used to dislodge the solid masses of masonry. As the whole materials of this ancient structure are thus in course of all being carried away and utilized, I have addressed Mr. Norris, the Assistant Engineer, and requested him to be good enough to direct any further excavations at Bhattiprole to be stopped, pending a reference to Government, as I think it very desirable that a thorough and careful examination should be made of the place. A similar mound at Gudivada is, I believe, also resorted to by the Department Public Works for the bricks it contains. The bricks in the Buddhist dehgope are of a very large size, and of very good make. It is quite possible that if the excavations were properly conducted, and the debris carefully removed, some portions of the original edifices might still be disintegrated, showing the original proportions and forms of the structures; but the present mode of conducting operations without any supervision ought to be stopped.

No. 59. ORDER THEREON, 6th July 1871, No. 1,167.

Miscellaneous.

THE Department Public Works will telegraph to the chief engineer officer of the district prohibiting these acts of vandalism.

2. It is observed that the Acting Collector has requested one of the Department Public Works officers to stop further excavations at the Bhattiprole mound, pending this reference to Government. It remains for the local officers of that department to explain how they ventured upon the wholesale destruction of these ruins in contravention of their Standing Orders—(page 544, Grant's Department Public Works Circulars).

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of the Kistna District.
,, the Department Public Works.
,, the Board of Revenue.

No. 1821

Kistna District Collectors Office
Camp Nijampatnam in Nellore Taluk
24 June 1871

From J. & C. Roswell Esquire,
Officiating Collector Kistna District,

To D. F. Carmichael Esquire,
Acting Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department,
Fort Saint George

Sir,

With reference to G.O. dated 7th June 1871 Revenue Department in regard to the Archaeological remains of the Kistna I have the honor to suggest that if further investigations are intended, it will be desirable that Government should issue instructions for the protection of the places of interest. Sir Walter Elliot refers to the remarkable mound at Bhakheprole ~~containing~~ the ruins of an ancient Buddhist chaitya. This mound has been resorted to for long, I believe, by the D.P.W. for the old bricks it contains, which are used for road material & other purposes. I am informed that some years ago Captain Vibart discovered among the ruins a stone casket containing a crystal phial with some ~~red~~ pearls etc. The excavations have been resumed lately & gunpowder is used to dislodge the solid masses of masonry. As the whole materials of this ancient structure are thus in course of all being carried away and utilized, I have addressed Mr Morris to him to

be good enough to direct any further exca-
-vations at Bhaktipole to be stopped pending
a reference to Government, as I think it very
desirable that a thorough & careful exami-
-nation should be made of the place. A
similar mound at Jundivada is, I believe,
also resorted to by the D.P.W. for the bricks
it contains. The bricks in the Buddhist
dehgspe are of a very large size & of very
good make. It is quite possible that
if the excavations were properly conducted
& the debris carefully removed, some portions
of the original edifices might still be
disinterred showing the original proportions
& forms of the structures, but the present
mode of conducting operations without any
supervision ought to be stopped.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Yours most Obedt Servt

J. P. M. S.

Off Collector

Dr. C. J. ...
Tolpman.

[illegible]

Recd. 1871 Deposits
Trans. No. 2077
The Acting Collector
of
Districts
The Acting Secretary to
Government.
Fort St. George.

Dated 24 June }
 Recd 1st July } 1871
 No 1821

Requesting to issue
instructions for the protection
of Archaeological remains.

Sc 467-624/71

Gift order

by

6th July 1848

From act of the Legislature

5/26 Luna/71

The S.P.W. will be removed to telegraphs to be Chief Engineer in Office of the District, prohibiting these acts of Vandalism.

Better being advised I observed that he as Col.
 & at a general has requested one of the S.P.W.
 men issued for Officers to stop further excavations
 protection of antiquities at the White. proto Mound,
 every where - pending his reference to Govt.
 It remains for the local Officer

It remains for the local officers
of that dept to explain how
they ventured upon the wholesale
destruction of these records, in
contravention of their

i Copy to C.W. K. on Oct 7 Standing orders - (Page
21 — To & B.W. S 564 Grants & B.W.
14 No of Rec'd v Circulars).

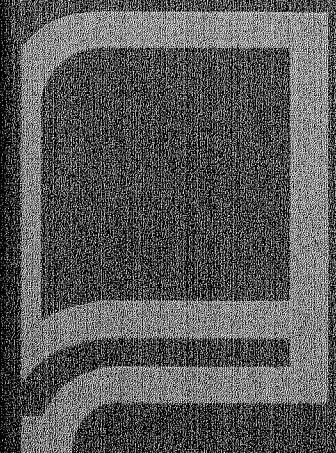
1/7/71

Ms 58-59

ft
Petition of certain
Archaeological Society
in Kent

Remedy for
the
despoilment
of the
ancient
monuments
in Kent

2 July 1842



B5