811

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 6th August 1873.

No. 26. Read the following letter from Rev. J. BURGESS, Editor of the "Indian Antiquary," to the Hon. R. A. DALYELL, Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Madras, dated Bombay, 13th June 1873:—

With reference to G. O., No. 134, of 22nd November last, and its enclosures, I have the honour to request the attention of Government to the following:—

1. With G. O., No. 1,353, of 23rd September 1872, I received a set of lithographs of the Vellapakam copper-plates, and, in compliance with a subsequent application, I was kindly permitted to obtain 446 copies, for which I have paid, inclusive of carriage, Rs. 61-12-0. I have submitted both the copy first sent me and the lithographs subsequently obtained (but which are not so good) to the ablest Pundit I know of; but, owing to the unsatisfactory character of the lithographs, the Sâsana can only be read with the greatest difficulty and by guessing at some of the letters. If these lithographs, partly issued with Part XVII. (for May) of the "Indian Antiquary," be compared with the lithographed facsimiles of the Vallabhi plates in Parts I. and II., or with others in Parts IV., VII., X., and XII., it will be seen how inferior they are; showing that, unless prepared by those who understand something of the character, and are fitted to take an intelligent interest in the work, facsimiles prepared even by Mr. Burnell's process are likely often to be unsatisfactory, and in some cases useless. Should any translation of these plates have been attempted by Mr. Burnell, I shall esteem it a favour to be supplied with a copy.

2. The information contained in G. O., No. 1,577, of 18th November, is in type, and will be republished in the "Indian Antiquary" very shortly.

3. I should be glad to publish the substance of G. O., No. 1,410, of 11th October 1872, if Government would permit me to have a loan of the plan and sections of the Lunjadibba therein referred to, and without which the information is not clearly intelligible. I should return the plan as soon as I had taken a copy.

4. The contents of G. O., No. 367, of 7th April 1873, kindly forwarded to me by Government, I have reprinted in the "Indian Antiquary," Part XVIII. (June), page 175, with introductory remarks and foot-notes. The first two, but especially the 1st of the plates therein referred to, is of very considerable historic interest. The translation made in the Collector's office, however, contained so many instances of what appeared to be careless readings of the proper names that I can have little confidence as to other readings that I have no means of verifying, and could not venture to alter. As these plates now belong to Government, and as I am authorized, at the expense of the grant of the Government of India for Sanskrit MSS., to collect and make facsimiles of all inscriptions of historical importance if the Government of Madras would send me the first two of these

Nuzid or Ederu Sâsanas by rail, I would have facsimiles made of them and printed off and return the plates.

5. Among the most important inscriptions discovered of late are the Merkara and Nâgamangala plates. Of the first, I was able to obtain a loan, and gave faithful facsimiles (Indian Antiquary, Part X., page 363); of the Nâgamangala plates, I have only been able to obtain, through the kindness of Captain J. S. F. Mackenzie, the ordinary photographs in which some letters are doubtfully represented, and the whole taken on too small a scale with a common lens. Mr. Rice has translated them, and it is greatly to be desired that plates of such unusual interest should be published in faithful facsimile. If the Government of Madras can obtain a loan of them for me through the Mysore Commission, I shall do my best to secure such copies. The cost of making the facsimiles and of the Nuzid and Vellapakam plates would be nothing to the Madras Government, except the carriage to Bombay; and if sent by rail, rather than by the slow and expensive "bhangy dâk," that would be a mere trifle.

6. It will be a service to the cause of knowledge if the Madras Government will continue to send to the "Indian Antiquary" any papers, reports, District Manuals, etc., that may be published, containing any archæological or ethnographic information.

Thankfully acknowledging the consideration shown in matters of this kind hitherto, and respectfully soliciting the favourable attention of Government to this letter, I have, etc.

No. 27. ORDER THEREON, 6th August 1873, No. 811.

Miscellaneous.

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council regrets that he is unable to consent to the Nuzid Sasanams being sent to Bombay; but, with a view to meet as far as may be Mr. Burgess' requirements, he will give instructions for copies being carefully made and lithographed.

2. It is unfortunate that the copies taken of the Vellapakam plates are not all that could be wished, but the plates, having been returned to their owners, are no longer in the possession of the Government.

3. A tracing or copy of the plan and sections of the Lunjadibba, in the Kistna District (G. O., No. 1,410, dated 11th October 1872), will be sent to Mr. Burgess, and His Excellency will have much pleasure in directing the transmission, from time to time, to the Editor of the Indian Antiquary of papers treating of archæological and ethnographical subjects, including any translation of, or remarks on, the Vellapakam plates that may be made by Mr. Burnell.

4. Regarding the Nâgamangala plates, application should be made direct to the Mysore Administration.

5. The tracing or copy of the plan and section of the Lunjadibba will be made in the Public Works Department, and Colonel Priestley will be requested to have the copies and lithographs of the Nuzid Sasanams undertaken in his office.

His Excellency has no doubt that the Professor of Sanskrit in the Presidency College will be glad to render assistance towards making the copies as accurate as possible.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To Mr. J. Burgess, Editor of the "Indian Antiquary," Bombay.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.
,, the Professor of Sanskrit through the Director of Public Instruction.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Revd J. Burgess Editor Ind. Antiquary
Requesting to be furnished
with a copy of Mr Ramuds translation
of lithographs of copper-plates

} No. 13th June 1873

Ack. the Secy letter &c

The Editor Indian Antiquary thanks this Government for various papers on Archæological subjects and for certain lithographs of copper Sachaunms &c. &c. points out that the lithographs being prepared by persons ignorant of the character have been found hard to decipher, (some of the letters being apparently illegible) and compares them unfavorably with lithographed fac similes that have appeared in the Antiquary

2. Referring to the copper-plates presented recently to Government by the Tinjid Zemindar he asks Government to let him have a loan of them that he may have fac similes

facsimiles prepared, as he is authorised to spend a grant of the Govt: of India in collecting and making facsimiles of all inscriptions of historical importance. He says the only expense to this Government would be the rail charge to Bombay. Orders are requested.

3. He further asks Govt: to obtain for him from the Mysore Administration the loan of certain plates known as the Nojamangala plates. It is presumed he should address the Mysore Administration direct

4 He would also like to have the plan and sections of the "Kunyadibba" remains in the Kistna District referred to in G O No 1110 dated 11th October 1872 - that he might take a copy. A tracing it is submitted might be prepared in the Public Works Department and sent to him.

5 He hopes Government will continue to send him papers

Can we bind him?
We can't we make as good pre-sumables?
Wait & refer.
Private facsimile Burnells request
Yes
No
Yes
No
Yes
No

papers containing Archæological & Ethnographic information and would like copies of Mr. Burnell's translations of the plates referred to in para 1 if any have been attempted by him.

A set of copies was sent to Mr. Burnell last Sept under "for his remarks" but none have been received.

Lee.

4

Memo for Orders

Read Jas Burgess pegnet
for a copy of his Bibliotheca Numismatica
ting Lithographic copy of plates

811

Ord

Rene 1873 Dept
No 1739

From
The Revd Jas Burgess Editor
Indian Antiquary

Dated 13 June
Recd 18 — } 1873

Requesting to be supplied with a copy (if any) of Mr Burnell's translation of lithographs of copper-plates, as also to continue to send to the "Indian Antiquary" any papers, reports, Sch Manuals &c &c that may be published containing any archæological or ethnographic information

GO 6 Aug 73 No 811

C. 18 Aug 73 R 22 July

D. 26-27

3 6

Revenue Department.

No. 811

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 6th August 1873

Read the following letter from the Revd Jas Burgess, Editor, Indian Antiquary

Requesting to be supplied with a copy of Mr Burnell's translation of lithographs of copper plates } A. R. 13th June 1873

His Excellency the Governor in Council regrets that he is unable to consent to the Nuzid Sasanams being sent to Bombay but with a view to meet as far as may be Mr Burgess' requirements he will give instructions for copies being carefully made and lithographed.

2. It is unfortunate that the copies taken of the Vellapalam plates are not all that could be wished but the plates having been returned to their owners are no longer in the possession of the Government.

A.

3. A tracing or copy of the plan and sections of the Kunjadibba in the Kistna District (G.O. No. 1610 dated 11th October 1872) will be sent to Mr. Burgess and His Excellency will have much pleasure in directing the transmission from time to time to the Editor of the Indian Antiquary of papers treating of Archæological and Ethnographical subjects including any translation of or remarks on the Vellapalem plates that may be made by Mr. Burnell

4. Regarding the Rajamundry plates application should be made direct to the Collectors Administration

5. The tracing or copy of the plan and section of the Kunjadibba will be made in the Public Works Department and Colonel Priestley will be requested to have the copies and lithographs of the Buddhist Excavations undertaken in his office. His Excellency has no doubt that the Professor of Sanskrit in the Presidency College will be glad to render assistance towards making the copies as accurate as possible.

Ltr

Ltr from Secy

To Mr Jas Burgess - Editor of Indian Antiquary Bombay
— Pub Wks Dept with sketch & sections of Kunjadibba (encls in Regl 71 dated 7/12/1872)
— Supt of Revenue Survey
— Professor of Sanskrit thro the Chief of Pub. Instruction
— Board of Revenue

Desp 12 Aug/73

