

(1) Number of Pages 30
(2) Date of repair 19-2-68
(3) Initials of the Referencer 26/4/81

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1563	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.

Dated 3-11-1875 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1563

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd November 1875.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 32. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th June 1875, No. 1,745.

Read the following letter from R. SEWELL, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Collector of the Kistna District, dated Mangalagerry, 19th March 1875, No. 96.

I HAVE the honor to request that you will kindly submit the following letter to the Board of Revenue for the information of the Government, with a word of support if you agree with me.

2. It is well known to the Board that the late Mr. Boswell, when he was stationed at Masulipatam, took great interest in the archaeological remains in the Kistna District, and in this he had the cordial support of the Government. They felt the importance of the matter, and impressed upon all Collectors their desire that "stringent measures" might be adopted to preserve all archaeological relics in the different districts, at the same time sanctioning any reasonable expenditure for the purpose of furnishing Government with lists and copies of all stone inscriptions (*vide* G. O., Miscellaneous No. 2,108, dated 14th December 1871).

3. It is perhaps needless for me to recapitulate all that took place, as it will be fresh in the memory of the Board; but I may refer to the letter from General Cunningham, Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India, No. 101, dated August 19th, 1871, published with G. O., Miscellaneous No. 1,577, dated 11th September 1871, from which it appears clearly that it was the intention of Government and the desire of General Cunningham that excavations should be carried out on Mr. Boswell's return from sick leave. Mr. Boswell's unfortunate death put a stop to every thing, and no steps of any kind have since been taken.

4. Independently of the probability of any fresh discoveries being made, there are several points remaining undetermined in the relics already found, which would well repay investigation, and which are earnestly desired by English antiquarians.

5. I know that the Government desire that the explorations should be carried out by experts, and I am quite aware of my own deficiency in that respect. I do not, therefore, ask to be permitted (at any rate for the present) to interfere to any great extent with such relics as the Amaravaty sculptures; but I think the Government will see that there is a great deal that may be done by an amateur like myself in preparing the way for those more skilled.

6. Something may be done without any fear of evil results arising from unskilful handling, and I will shortly note what those are.

7. I believe that it is doubtful whether there still remains at Amaravaty any of the old sculptured rails in their proper position. I propose very carefully to clear away debris and rubbish, and if I come upon any more of the rail still standing I will leave it in its place and report at once. If I find loose stones, I will note their exact position and store them, for I feel sure that eventually the Government will have them removed to some Museum. The great double rail, if it had been left in

its original position, would have been one of the finest relics in India; but it has been so injured and demolished that there is now really no object to be gained in leaving the stones where they are. If money can be spared for the purpose, they should be sent to England; if not, to the Museum at Madras. Meanwhile, if the Government will permit it, I will have any detached stones sent to the Museum at Bezwada, and carefully stored and catalogued. I speak only of detached stones. Any such in their erect position, or even near the remaining (erect) portion of the rails, I will leave alone, and send a report on the matter. Mr. Boswell states that some stones were buried for safety. These being completely detached, might be sent to some Museum if the place can be found where they lie.

8. If the Government think it dangerous to entrust me with this work, I will confine myself, with their sanction, to certain other explorations.

9. The caves at Undavilly, opposite Bezwada, on the south side of the Kistna, have not yet been sufficiently examined. It is a rock-cut temple of four storeys. But only the upper two are visible. The lower two are hidden under a mass of brick which may be the debris of a building originally standing forward from the rock, or may be a mound deliberately built up. The former is the more likely supposition. It is probable that there was a massive frontage to the temples, as in the case of the Karli caves and others, which has fallen in. It is more than probable that amongst this debris will be found detached raths or the original pillars on which the building stood, with their capitals, carvings, and possible inscriptions. It is certain that the removal of the debris will bring to light the two lower storeys, and it is not at all impossible that, when removed, the debris will be found to be concealing the front of a rock temple of very much greater importance than the two caves above.

10. The pillars and walls of the upper storeys have all been carved over by the Brahmins, and bear now roughly-hewn figures of the wars of Rama and Ravana.

11. As the lower chambers, whatever they may be, have been covered in by the debris described, they probably were not touched by the Brahmins; and, if so, the removal of the mound will be very interesting, inasmuch as it will place, one above the other, representations of two storeys of a Buddhist cave uninjured, with two similar storeys as they were after being handled by the Brahmins. I need hardly point out how interesting this will be to antiquarians. If permitted, I will carry out this work very carefully in conjunction with Mr. W. R. Norris, Executive Engineer, who is anxious to help, and who will be able to draw plans and sections of the chambers discovered, and perhaps take photographs of the whole.

12. Now as to the Bhattiprolu Tope. This has been almost entirely demolished, but there still remains fourteen feet of the original mound; and exactly down the centre still remains the remarkable hollow shaft, nine inches in diameter, noted by Mr. Norris in his letters published with G. O., No. 1,410, dated 11th October 1872, (Miscellaneous). The tope is so hopelessly injured that no harm can now be done by little further examination, and I would request permission to clear it away partially, in the centre, in order to ascertain whether, as is possible, the shaft ends in the relic chamber; if so, the shape of it will be carefully noted (as so earnestly desired by Mr. Fergusson, *vide* his "Hand-book of Architecture," Volume I., pp. 19, 20). I propose to examine this, and report upon it.

13. Reverting now for a moment to the Amaravaty Tope, and its unfortunate demolition, I would beg for permission to explore a circular mound at the village of Pidugurala, in the Palnad—thus spoken of by Mr. Boswell (*vide* his report to the Board of Revenue, dated 31st March 1870): "Near the latter village (Pidugurala) are a number of mounds forming a sort of large circle, which the people believe to be the remains of an old fort. The appearance of these mounds bears, however, a very strong resemblance to the *Dipavali Dinna* at Amaravaty, beneath which the Amaravaty sculptures were discovered. They have never been opened." It is just possible that excavations may discover another such double rail as that at Amaravaty, and I earnestly ask permission to make some few excavations there and report the result. Should I find traces of anything of the kind, I will at once cease work, cover up any stone-work discovered, and report the matter, so that the sculptures may be afterwards thoroughly examined by more scientific hands. If explorations were to result in such a discovery, I think we should very soon have an antiquarian party sent out from England to examine it.

14. I request, also, that I may be permitted to expend some money occasionally in other excavations, especially in the places noticed by Mr. Boswell, which, it is tolerably certain, he would have explored, had he been able to return to this country, and for which, I think, he would have received the cordial support of the Government.

15. I can assure the Government that my operations will be conducted with the greatest care, for I am far too interested myself in the question to do any injury to any of these remains; whenever I come upon anything of value which unscientific hands ought not to meddle with, I will at once cease work and report.

16. I beg, also, that I may occasionally be permitted to open Kistvains or cairns, preserving the contents, and making drawings where necessary, and to collect and place in the Bezwada Museum some of the more valuable sculptures and carvings that may be, or have lately been, exhumed by the workmen engaged in digging canals and the like under the Public Works Department.

17. I do not propose to carry out any very extensive works, or to cause Government any great expense, and I therefore earnestly beg that I may have your support in this matter.

No. 686.

SUBMITTED to the Board of Revenue for their favorable consideration.

MASULIPATAM,
21st May 1875.

(Signed) H. NEWMAN,
Acting Collector.

THE Collector is requested to report approximately what sum will be required for the operations contemplated by Mr. Sewell. The Board will be prepared to support proposals for any reasonable expenditure.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd November 1875.*

No. 33. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th August 1875, No. 2,421.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 24th June 1875, No. 1,745.

Read also the following letter from H. NEWMAN, Esq., Acting Collector of the Kistna District, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 31st July 1875, No. 1,044.

With reference to Proceedings, No. 1,745, dated 24th June 1875, I have the honor to forward Mr. Sewell's letter from which the Board will observe that the probable amount of money required for carrying out Mr. Sewell's proposals regarding the archaeological remains would be Rupees 1,000.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From R. SEWELL, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to H. NEWMAN, Esq., Acting Collector of the Kistna District, dated Bezwada, 19th July 1875, No. 242.

With reference to your letter, No. 949, dated 12th July 1875, forwarding copy of Board's Proceedings, No. 1,745, dated 24th June 1875, in which the Board desire to know how much will be required for carrying out my proposals regarding the archaeological remains in this district, I have the honor to inform you that I have consulted with the officers of the Public Works Department on the subject.

2. They tell me that the removal of the mound in front of the Undavilly rock-temples will cost under Rupees 500. The work to be done on the Bhattiprole mound and the Pidugurala enclosure, with the expenses of removing some carved stones and statues to Bezwada, will probably cost another Rupees 500.

3. I trust that the Board will not think Rupees 1,000 too much for the accomplishment of such very desirable results.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. Mr. Sewell, Acting Head Assistant, Kistna, requests to be allowed to make certain excavations and explorations of archaeological remains as detailed in his letter recorded in the Board's Proceedings above read, and asks for a grant of Rupees 1,000 for this purpose. The Board support Mr. Sewell's request.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 34. ORDER THEREON, 3rd November 1875, No. 1,563.

Miscellaneous.

THESE papers will be forwarded to the Government of India, in view to General Cunningham's opinion being obtained.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

1563
No. 1,745.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 24th June 1875.

Read the following letter from R. SEWELL, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Collector of the Kistna District, dated Mangalagerry, 19th March 1875, No. 96 :—

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Boat. of 1875
REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated November, 3rd

Recd

Encl

G. O., 3rd November 1875, No. 1,663.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 82-34.

Archæological remains in the Kistna District.—
Resolving to forward to the Government of India
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue regarding
explorations of certain — for the opinion of
General Cunningham.



Meanwhile, if the Government will permit it, I will have any detached stones sent to the Museum at Bezwada, and carefully stored and catalogued. I speak only of detached stones. Any such in their erect position, or even near the remaining (erect) portion of the rails, I will leave alone, and send a report on the matter. Mr. Boswell states that some stones were buried for safety. These being completely detached, might be sent to some Museum, if the place can be found where they lie.

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9. The caves at Undavilly, opposite Bezwada, on the south side of the Kistna, have not yet been sufficiently examined. It is a rock-cut temple of four stories. But only the upper two are visible. The lower two are hidden under a mass of brick which may be the debris of a building originally standing forward from the rock, or may be a mound deliberately built up. The former is the more likely supposition. It is probable that there was a massive frontage to the temples, as in the case of the Karli caves and others, which has fallen in. It is more than probable that amongst this debris will be found detached raths or the original pillars on which the building stood, with their capitals, carvings, and possible inscriptions. It is certain that the removal of the debris will bring to light the two lower stories, and it is not at all impossible that, when removed, the debris will be found to be concealing the front of a rock temple of very much greater importance than the two caves above.

10. The pillars and walls of the upper stories have all been carved over by the Brahmins, and bear now roughly-hewn figures of the wars of Rama and Ravana.

11. As the lower chambers, whatever they may be, have been covered in by the debris described, they probably were not touched by the Brahmins; and, if so, the removal of the mound will be very interesting, inasmuch as it will place, one above the other, representations of two stories of a Buddhist cave uninjured, with two similar stories as they were after being handled by the Brahmins. I need hardly point out how interesting this will be to antiquarians. If permitted, I will carry out this work very carefully in conjunction with Mr. W. R. Norris, Executive Engineer, who is anxious to help, and who will be able to draw plans and sections of the chambers discovered, and perhaps take photographs of the whole.

12. Now as to the Bhattiprolu Tope. This has been almost entirely demolished, but there still remains fourteen feet of the original mound; and exactly, down the centre still remains the remarkable hollow shaft, nine inches in diameter, noted by Mr. Norris in his letters published with G. O., No. 1,410, dated 11th October 1872 (Miscellaneous). The tope is so hopelessly injured that no harm can now be done by a little further examination, and I would request permission to clear it away partially, in the centre, in order to ascertain whether, as is possible, the shaft ends in the relic chamber; if so, the shape of it will be carefully noted (as so earnestly desired by Mr. Fergusson, *vide* his "Hand Book of Architecture," Volume I. pp. 19, 20). I propose to examine this, and report upon it.

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the Board of Revenue, dated 31st March 1870): "Near the latter village (Pidugurula) are a number of mounds forming a sort of large circle, which the people believe to be the remains of an old fort. The appearance of these mounds bears, however, a very strong resemblance to the *Dipavali Dinna* at Amaravaty, beneath which the Amaravaty sculptures were discovered. They have never been opened." It is just possible that excavations may discover another such double rail as that at Amaravaty, and I earnestly ask permission to make some few excavations there, and report the result. Should I find traces of any thing of the kind, I will at once cease work, cover up any stonework discovered, and report the matter, so that the sculptures may be afterwards thoroughly examined by more scientific hands. If explorations were to result in such a discovery, I think we should very soon have an antiquarian party sent out from England to examine it.

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15. I can assure the Government that my operations will be conducted with the greatest care, for I am far too interested myself in the question to do any injury to any of these remains; whenever I come upon anything of value which unscientific hands ought not to meddle with, I will at once cease work and report.

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17. I do not propose to carry out any very extensive works, or to cause Government any great expense, and I therefore earnestly beg that I may have your support in this matter.

No. 686.

SUBMITTED to the Board of Revenue for their favorable consideration.

MASULIPATAM,
21st May 1875.

(Signed) H. NEWMAN,
Acting Collector.

THE Collector is requested to report approximately what sum will be required for the operations contemplated by Mr. Sewell. The Board will be prepared to support proposals for any reasonable expenditure.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of the Kistna District.

Exd. W. H. French.

No. 2,421.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 26th August 1875.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 24th June 1875, No. 1,745.

Read also the following letter from H. NEWMAN, Esq., Acting Collector of the Kistna District, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 31st July 1875, No. 1,044:—

With reference to Proceedings, No. 1,745, dated 24th June 1875, I have the honor to forward Mr. Sewell's letter from which the Board will observe that the probable amount of money required for carrying out Mr. Sewell's proposals regarding the Archæological remains would be Rupees 1,000.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From R. SEWELL, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to H. NEWMAN, Esq., Acting Collector of the Kistna District, dated Bezvada, 19th July 1875, No. 242.

With reference to your letter, No. 949, dated 12th July 1875, forwarding copy of Board's Proceedings, No. 1,745, dated 24th June 1875, in which the Board desire to know how much will be required for carrying out my proposals regarding the Archæological remains in this district, I have the honor to inform you that I have consulted with the officers of the Public Works Department on the subject.

2. They tell me that the removal of the mound in front of the Undavilly rock-temples will cost under Rupees 500. The work to be done on the Bhatteprole mound and the Pidugurala enclosure, with the expenses of removing some carved stones and statues to Bezvada, will probably cost another Rupees 500.

3. I trust that the Board will not think Rupees 1,000 too much for the accomplishment of

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. Mr. Sewell, Acting Head Assistant, Kistna, requests to be allowed to make certain excavations and explorations of Archæological remains as detailed in his letter recorded in the Board's Proceedings above read, and asks for a grant of Rupees 1,000 for this purpose. The Board support Mr. Sewell's request.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with copy of Board's Proceedings, dated 24th June 1875, No. 1,745.
Copy to the Acting Collector of the Kistna District.

1875.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 24TH JUNE 1875, No. 1,745.

Received

Rs 3496/75

JUNE.
No. 1,745.

Archæological Remains—in Kistna District.
—Collector requested to report, approximately, what sum will be required for the operations contemplated by the Acting Head Assistant Collector, Mr. Sewell, in connection with—

7/1563

Dear Mr. Addleston
 I know the Auravally
 Toppe and Beguarrak (or rather
 Andanilly) caves well and
 would earnestly deprecate either
 of them or any of the Antiqua-
 rities being touched by any
 one not thoroughly acquainted with
 the subject. These antiquities are
 as far as I know unique in this
 Presidency & besides possessing an
 interest archaeologically may throw
 light on ancient history if examined
 by one who knows what to look
 for. The Toppe at Auravally has been
 so much pulled about that perhaps
 little harm could be done but no

Ans. 1895/5442

1893/3476

1875.

BOARD OF REVENUE,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 26TH AUGUST 1876, No. 2,421.

Order 2844/75

Encl. 1

Secd. 1663. 13th November 1875

Received 8th Sept 1875

AUGUST.

No. 2,421.

Archaeological remains—in Kistna District.
 Request of Mr. Sewell, Acting Head Assistant
 Collector, to be allowed to make certain excava-
 tions and explorations of —, and application for
 a grant of Rupees 1,000 for this purpose,
 supported and submitted to Government.

h 33.

C-25. Q. 475. N. 26. m. 75.

113. 144/75. 1875. 1475.

for return

good could be gained &
the few stones that are left
are kept carefully covered & thus
preserved. I note from Sewall's
letter that he has not seen
them nor has he apparently
visited Anuravatti or any of
the places he mentions except
Indavilly. His examination
of the caves at the latter place
does not seem to me to have
been a very careful one. I have
often examined them (notably
with Sir H. Smith & Horniblow (Vai:
Comp.) & thought we could have
three or even four stones alone
the rubbish heap referred to

8/5/63
by Sewall. The heap is composed
of earth with some broken (modern)
brick. Probably the Brahmans who
sculptured Hindu gods inside the
caves built up a porch in front
which has now fallen in. As to
his wanting funds to remove to
Beyvarrat. I have found in the
excavation remains I have to
remark that this has long been
done by the Port. 10. Various stone
images have been found & also
some bronze images of Buddha
& his throne. There are curious
& well worth removing & statues
which could be easily & safely

are only about a foot high.
My object in writing now is to
urge that all these antiquities
should be left untouched until
some one capable of investigating
them and describing them
properly can undertake the
task. "No steps have since been
taken," says Sewall. This ^{is only} ~~is only~~
correct so far as not meddling
is concerned. All antiquities
were carefully preserved and it
was not from want of interest
that we left them untouched
but from a knowledge of our
unfitness for the task. Sewall
admits his ignorance & gets
taller cheerily of coming on

10
something of value. How does
he know what is of value? It is
not too much to say that
everything is of value and
would urge everything being
left until our archaeologist (whose
appointment is now under
reference) or other competent
person can master the subject
& conduct his ^{own} investigations
under instructions <sup>from the Commis-
sioner of Education</sup> or other authority. Meddling in
such cases is unarriving. Sewall
is I am sure anxious not to do
harm but he really cannot tell
when he may do it and should

I think, not unadvised. It must
be noted that the instances of all
the antiquities he refers to is already
known and all that remains
is their examination in detail
& description. This is work for
those not in the mysteries.
Let such employ themselves
in discovering fresh objects worth
investigating by others. but let
them withhold their hand
from disturbing them.

Gonyo Inocerol
Orulalamp

I think it right to
re. care. These papers
is to a note addressed
once by the Lind. Sec.
W. L. Campbell
suggesting for the
insert. of W. Lewis
request that he may
be permitted to
continue the Exploration
commenced by the
late W. Bosworth.

I have looked thro' the former papers

The Garden
is now in the

Report of W. Campbell
& I think in this good
case for more deliberate
action in this matter.

Before the former occasion
stated this opinion that
in the absence of an
expert Dr. W. Lowell
does not appear to
be it was undesirable
to meddle with these
old relics. and
I do suggest for the
consideration of

These were concluded
also draw attention to

Exp. that W. Lowell's
proposals be referred
to Gen. Cunningham
for his opinion. before
sanction is given for
any action.

I think it very
desirable that a
complete exploration
of the ancient
remains in the
this area should be made
in order to more
earn than good
by understanding the

The Museum
seems to this

C-25 Q.4
p. 27 (1875)
1/13 1/14/1875 p. 24 1/17

book & unkill the
agency -

Agree I will be
I possess the it is a proposal and I will make
the reference + J.C. ad-
be eminently desirable - say that the Govt
of Madras are of a
that W. Burgess - I am anxious that
no more time should
be lost - in having them
important exploration
made, and offering
the assist: of Mr. Sewell
in the matter

book. [X]

25.9.75.

I write again

Mr. Sewell's letter I have
little doubt he will become an
expert - of all sorts of things. In
the mean time J.C. will, if he accept
him, find him a useful agent

29/9 [initials]

They were careful
not to draw attention to

Revenue Dept

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 3496

12/15/03

From B. of Rev.

Dated 26 August 1875.

FOR ORDERS.

I do not readily sanction
I thank W. Sewell for
taking so much
trouble in this
matter of public
interest. I think
any relics removed from
the site of discovery -
had better be sent
to the Madras
Museum rather

29/9

10/11

Revenue Dept

11-1-20

11/1

875

Ship

421

with

27

mb

being

then to Buzwada -

They are not of much
local interest. &
are more likely to
come under competent
observation at Madras.

L.A.

Obtained .

of Dec 24, 1919

10
3

12

c 27 Sept 75 v. 4 oct 75

Revised

82-1563

$$\frac{14}{1563}$$

Overturning of the Indian Government

Under Date the 3^d ~~June~~ 1875

Read the following Proceedings
of the Board of Revenue

Supporting and submitting
request of Mr. Sewell, of the Acad. Socy, to
be allowed to make certain excavations &
Explorations of Archaeological remains in
Kistina Co. and apply for a grant of Rs
1000 for this purpose

14. 8. 26: Aug: 175 St. 24, 21

These papers will
be forwarded to the Gov.
of India, in view to General
Cunningham's opinion being
obtained.

14 To the Board of Regs 4 Nov

1.0

Archaeopteryx
in the