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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Fiancial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	552	Press Mis.
		35-36
Dated	7 — 4 —	1894.

12/18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 35. Read the following letter from A. MACGREGOR, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Cochin, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Calicut, 6th December 1873, No. 27 :—

I have the honour to forward the annual report of the Cochin Municipality on the working of the Towns Improvement Act in Cochin during the year 1872-73, together with the usual statements.

2. Taxes were raised during the year from all sources excepting tolls.

3. The total amount collected during the year was Rupees 11,119-9-1.

The opening balance on the 31st March 1872, amounting to Rupees 3,949-1-6, raised the total to Rupees 15,068-10-7.

4. The collection of rates and taxes were satisfactory, as it will be seen from the Demand, Collection, and Balance Statement that only a sum of Rupees 116-5-2 remained to be realized at the end of the year; of these outstandings Rupees 94-0-3 are reported to have been collected during the current year.

5. EXPENDITURE.—*Grant* I.—Under this head Rupees 1,240-1-0 were expended for the following purposes:—Rupees 320-14-5 for a road, Rupees 329-14-5 for constructing four bridges, Rupees 302-0-1 for building culverts, drains, and latrines, and Rupees 287-4-1 in providing furniture for the Municipal School. The last-mentioned item should be transferred to Grant IV., Miscellaneous, as the amount was not spent on works.

Under the head "Repairs" Rupees 3,380-8-7 were spent; of which, Rupees 3,208-2-9 were for Communications, and Rupees 172-5-10 for repairing culverts and drains.

6. *Grant* II.—Only Rupees 191-14-6 were spent for educational purposes. This sum falls considerably short of the estimate owing to the proposed Municipal School not having been opened before the close of the year.

7. *Grant* III., *Civil Dispensary*.—This institution was taken charge of by the Commissioners during the second half of the year under review with a funded capital of Rupees 4,398-2-3. The receipt of the institution during that period was Rupees 823-15-0, and the expenditure was Rupees 811-15-3, leaving an unexpended balance of Rupees 11-15-9 on the 31st March 1873. The marginally-noted figures represent the receipts and charges of the institution during first and second half-years of 1872-73.

				Rs.	A.	P.
Balance on 1st April 1872			...	161	0	10
Amount collected during the first half-year...	...	779	5 8			
Do. second do.		574	12 0			
				1,354	1	8
	Total		...	1,515	2	6
Expenditure during the first half-year		691	3 6			
Do. second do.		811	15 3			
				1,503	2	9
	Balance		...	11	15	9

The above charges do not include the pay of Hospital Assistant and cost of medicines supplied to the institution. The charges have to be apportioned between Municipal, Provincial, and Port Funds, and steps are being taken to adjust the same.

Vaccination.—Rupees 140 were spent on the salary of a Vaccinator entertained by the Municipality. The number of cases vaccinated during the year was 1686, of which 1190 proved successful. Small-pox raged very virulently in the

latter part of the year, and temporary Vaccinators were at once entertained to arrest the progress of the epidemic.

Registration.—Rupees 127 were spent for registration of births and deaths. The casualties registered are given in the statement enclosed.

Conservancy.—Under this head Rupees 2,393-14-7 were expended by the Commissioners.

8. *Grant* IV.—Under this head Rupees 2,090 were spent for lighting and other various purposes.

9. *Grant* V.—Rupees 1,686-2-7 were expended under this head including miscellaneous charges.

10. The Commissioners dwell at length on the necessity of retaining the Tax on Arts, Trades, and Professions in their Municipality, which was ordered to be discontinued throughout from the commencement of next year.

11. An important source of revenue, viz., Tolls, is lost to this Municipality owing to its peculiar and isolated position, and the expenditure is now met from the proceeds of House and Profession taxes, the latter yielding an income of Rupees 3,000, or twenty-five per cent. of the whole.

12. From the commencement of the current year the Commissioners have undertaken the charges in connexion with the Civil Dispensary and the newly-established Middle-class School, a want much felt by the community. They will find great difficulty in reducing the expenditure which has always been economically managed.

13. The Commissioners state that the Profession-tax does not fall heavily on the ratepayers, and has never been a subject of complaint.

14. Under the above circumstances, I recommend that the concession asked for by the Commissioners may be made as a special case.

Annual Report of the Cochin Municipality for 1872-73.

The Municipal Commissioners of Cochin have the honour to submit their report of the Proceedings of the Commission and the operation of the Towns Improvement Act within its limits during the year ending 31st March 1873, and to forward, herewith enclosed, the usual statements of the receipts and disbursements of the Municipality during that period.

By a Notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette* the Government sanctioned the levy of the following rates and taxes for the year under review :—

1. Rates on houses, buildings, and lands, according to the annual value thereof.
2. Tax upon arts, professions, trades, and callings.
3. Taxes on carriages, horses, and other animals as described in Schedule C to the Act.
4. Fees on the registration of carts.

The collections in 1872-73 from the above and all sources of income to the Municipality were Rupees 11,119-9-1, and with the balance* on hand, at the close of the preceding year, the total sum available for municipal purposes in the period under notice was Rupees 15,068-10-7. It must be observed that the receipts fell short of the budgeted amount ;† but the difference is small, and would be sufficiently accounted for by the fact that the assignments and allotments for the year by the Government from the Provincial Budget and Port Fund have not been drawn as yet. These receipts may be thus particularized under the budget heads.

* Rupees 3,949-1-6.

† Rupees 11,590.

Receipts.—One of the chief items of receipts is Rupees 1,375 derived from the Vypeen Ferry-farm. Since the farm had been assigned over to the Municipality its annual rent has never exceeded that of the year under review. The amount is above the estimated sum by Rupees 195. Here it is necessary to state that the budget amount of Rupees 1,700 under the head of "Assignments by Government" comprises the estimated ferry-rent of Rupees 1,180, and the sum of Rupees 520 provided for in the Provincial Budget for the Civil Dispensary. The actual proceeds from the ferry-farm in 1872-73, as has been already stated, were Rupees 1,375 ; but the latter assignment for the dispensary has not been hitherto realized. This is left to be credited to the Municipality in any adjustment of accounts to be made by the Accountant-General.

In this Municipality the most important of all taxes are those on houses, buildings and lands, and on trades, arts, and professions. A careful supervision, with an efficient agency, has been hitherto exercised in the collection of them, and this will be evident from the very small amounts which invariably remain unrecovered at the end of each year, and from the absence of any heavy accumulating arrears. The net collection of taxes on houses and lands during the year under report was Rupees 4,574-4-5, of which but Rupees 185-13-9 were arrears of the preceding year. There was a sum of Rupees 69-1-6 uncollected on account of this tax when the period under review closed ; but of this amount Rupees 50-8-3 have since been recovered up to the time of the preparation of this report. The levy of Tax on Arts, Trades, and Professions yielded in 1872-73 Rupees 2,813-6-8, which includes the arrears (Rupees 64-6-8) of the previous year. A sum of Rupees 49-8-0 is the arrears of the Profession-tax remaining unrealized at the beginning of the current year ; of which, Rupees 43-8-0 have been thereafter collected. There was a total income of Rupees 472 from the registration of carts, tax on carriages and animals, the licensing of slaughter-houses and offensive trades, and magisterial fines. The estimated receipts from these sources were Rupees 510, but the slight falling off does not call for particular remark. The fees from the registration of carts and the tax on carriages and animals have not been, and will never be, under the present circumstances, much in this Municipality. Within a compact area of one or two miles, which comprises the municipal limits of Cochin, there can be but few carts and carriages, and the number of rateable wheeled-vehicles which were licensed in the year was therefore very small. There is no wheel-traffic with the place, owing to its almost isolated position, all goods being brought down in boats from the interior ; an important source of revenue to other Municipalities in the mofussil is thus lost to Cochin, viz., Tolls on Carts and Carriages. The licensing of offensive trades is attended to with strict regard to the health of the population, and only few licenses are granted for certain trades, principally the manufacture of fish oil and lime, to be carried on at spots removed from houses and frequented localities. In 1872-73, the local Civil Dispensary and the travellers' bungalow came under the management of the Municipality, and with them the funds belonging thereto. On taking charge of the dispensary, the balance in cash handed over to the Commissioners was Rupees 249-3-0, and, subsequently, the sum of Rupees 491-4-9 was collected from local subscribers, and Rupees 83-7-3 by the sale of medicines. The receipts of the institution before that time and for the period of six months since the 1st April 1872, including Rupees 161-0-10, the balance of the preceding official year, appear to have been Rupees 940-6-6, while the expenditure for the same period was Rupees 691-3-6. The Commissioners have also taken charge of the funded capital* of the dispensary, which is invested in the local Madras Bank, and yields an interest of about 160 Rupees annually. It will be seen that the receipts from both institutions, for the time they had been under the Municipality, amounted to Rupees 1,016-11-0, inclusive of the above-mentioned balance transferred over to the Commissioners on receiving charge of the dispensary. Under the head of "Miscellaneous," the sum of Rupees 838-3-0 appears amongst the receipts, which was raised, first, by renting the Calvetty fish-market that yielded Rupees 705 ; and, secondly, from minor sources, such as fees recovered from demand notices, the levy of summary fines, &c.

* Rupees 4,398-2-3.

The Commissioners have found little difficulty in the levy of rates and collection of taxes in the year under report. This is a fact which shows that the advantages of the Municipal Commission are appreciated by the community, and it indicates a feeling amongst them that the benefits

conferred to the place in sanitation, cleanliness, or the improvement of road communication, and in other directions, are such that the people do not consider the taxes, whether from houses and lands, or on arts, professions, and trades, at all heavy in comparison to them. As the Municipal Commission advances from year to year in its operations its utility is more and more recognised by all classes ; and it is, then, a matter of regret that its very limited resources do not permit the carrying out of more improvements in the interests of the ratepayers that are desirable, but which would require comparatively heavy expenditure. The incidence of the tax on houses and lands in 1872-73 per head of the population, taking the actual amount realized and the small arrears to be recovered, was Annas 5-3¼, and that of the Profession-tax, Annas 3-3½. A statement of the incidence of the various rates and taxes in the Municipality, required as per G.O., No. 822, dated 12th June 1873, Financial Department, is herewith forwarded.

The abandonment of the Profession-tax for the future, as requested in G.O., No. 938, dated 7th July 1873, Financial Department, will considerably reduce the capabilities of this Commission. This tax yields annually about Rupees 3,000, which is one-fourth of the total revenues of the Municipality. To dispense with such an income will materially affect the utility of the Commission. Its resources, as has herein-before been remarked, are very few, and the Commissioners depend for the satisfactory working of the institution almost entirely on its two principal sources of revenue.—These are the Rate on Houses and Lands, and the Tax upon Trades, Arts, and Professions. This Commission has to maintain a middle-class school, to incur an annual heavy expense towards conservancy, to support the dispensary, and to attend constantly to the maintenance of road communication. Its annual expenditure, therefore, cannot be reduced, nor can any reduction be effected in the establishments, without impairing their usefulness, or doing injustice to those who have done efficient services. The Commissioners, therefore, earnestly beg that the Government will reconsider the proposed measure, and permit the levy of the Profession-tax at Cochin as an exceptional case. The incidence of this tax does not fall heavy upon the ratepayers, and there has been no expression of discontent against it from the community.

The Budget for 1872-73 provided an expenditure of Rupees 12,110 for that year, but a further sum of Rupees 2,139-1-6 was subsequently sanctioned as per G.O., No. 108, dated 21st January 1873, Financial Department, for the improvement of the Calvetty Canal Bank Road. The total sanctioned amount for disbursements was thus Rupees 14,249-1-6. In the year under review there was an aggregate actual expenditure of Rupees 11,861-2-7, leaving a balance on the 31st March 1873 of Rupees 3,207-8-0. The disbursements are divided under the following budget heads :—

Expenditure.—*Grant* I.—The allotment for Public Works in the budget was Rupees 2,100, to which the sanctioned amount of Rupees 2,139-1-6 must be added. During the year the outlay on New Works was Rupees 1,240-1-0 ; of which, Rupees 650-12-10 was expended in "Communications," that is, in opening out and completing the road behind the Protestant Parsonage, and in constructing a large wooden bridge across the Calvetty Canal, and three small ones at different other localities ; Rupees 287-4-1 under the head of "Educational," in providing furniture for the Municipal School ; and Rupees 302-0-1 for "Sanitary purposes," as in building culverts and drains and in erecting a latrine and a shed at the Calvetty fish-market. The expenditure in "Repairs" amounted to Rupees 3,380-8-7. It was found in the year under notice that several roads required immediate repairs, and the Commissioners were consequently compelled to incur an outlay of Rupees 2,228-5-8 in improving them. A sum of Rupees 19-2-2 was spent in repairing bridges. The expenditure in the improvement of the Calvetty Canal Bank Road up to the close of the year was Rupees 953-6-3. This latter work is still uncompleted. In repairs under the head of "Sanitary" the sum of Rupees 172-5-10 was incurred, viz., in renewing latrines and privy-boxes, and in repairing drains and a culvert. It will be perceived that the entire expenditure under Grant I., or for Public Works, amounted to Rupees 4,620-9-7, which exceeded the total estimated sum by Rupees 301-8-0, while the completion of the Calvetty Canal Bank Road remains yet to be effected. The excess would be explained by the circumstances above referred to, and by

the fact that the sum of Rupees 287-4-1 expended for school-furniture was not specially provided for in the budget. The assignment for "Education," or Grant II. for the year was Rupees 1,000, but the actual expenditure within the period was only Rupees 191-14-6. This amount was expended (1) in payments* for results towards elementary schools, (2) contribution† for their inspection, (3) rent‡ of that part of the municipal premises intended for the school which had been engaged sometime previous to the opening of the institution, and (4) cost§ of advertising for masters in the local newspapers. On making this grant, the Government proposed the establishment of an Elementary Vernacular School to be under the management of the Commissioners, but the greatest desideratum at Cochin had been a good Middle-class School for the children of all classes of ratepayers. The Government was consequently addressed on the subject, and in their Order dated 28th November 1872, No. 1589, Financial Department, they sanctioned the institution and maintenance by the municipal funds of a Middle-class School. The school was opened only after the close of the period under review ; its working, therefore, belongs to the report of the current year. It may, however, be stated that the institution has fully met the wants of the place in supplying sound education to East Indians and other classes of the community.

* Rupees 160-0-0.
† Do. 12-6-6.
‡ Do. 12-0-0.
§ Do. 7-8-0.

Under the head of "Sanitation and Medical Services" the sum of Rupees 3,473-5-10 was expended. This expenditure is divided as follows :—Dispensary expenses, Rupees 811-15-3, in which is included the cost of dieting patients and servants' wages ; vaccination, Rupees 140 ; registration of births and deaths, Rupees 127-8-0 ; and conservancy, Rupees 2,393-14-7.

Grant III., being allotment for the above purposes, was Rupees 5,140 ; the difference which fell short of the budgeted grant must be explained by observing that the dispensary charges were small for the time the institution had been under the Municipal Commissioners in 1872-73. The outlay on conservancy is in excess of the allotment for that purpose by Rupees 393-14-7. The increment is due partly to such conservancy work as burying filth and rubbish and filling up pits, which had not been anticipated before. In previous years all rubbish and filth were thrown into the sea, but the practice has been subsequently discontinued owing to the marine surveys and harbour works undertaken here. There was, moreover, a large increase in the cost of cleaning the drains over the estimate.

Grant IV., or Rupees 2,090, was for lighting and other purposes. The total expenditure from this grant was Rupees 1,889-2-11, which was incurred for the following particular purposes :—For lighting the town, Rupees 757-7-3 ; for watering streets, Rupees 167-9-3 ; for raising avenues, Rupees 73-9-4 ; for a fire-engine, Rupees 600 ; rewards for killing dogs and snakes, Rupees 21-0-4 ; and for the servants of, and repairs to, the travellers' bungalow, Rupees 269-7-11. The fire-engine was ordered for from England in the year, but it has not been received as yet. A town-clock, for which provision was made, could not be obtained ; this will be supplied at a future time. The cost of the municipal establishment, including the rent of the office, contingent expenses, and a clerk in the President's office at Calicut, was Rupees 1,611-2-7. To this must be added Rupees 75, being remuneration to the Auditor, making the total expenditure from Grant V. to amount to Rupees 1,686-2-7.

After the above view of the working of the Municipal Commission financially, it is necessary to enter into a consideration of the benefits it has conferred on the people, and its operation as an agency for securing the general health and the conservancy and sanitation of the town. In connexion with this part of the report, the Commissioners shall first make some observations on the administration of the Civil Dispensary, although the institution came under their management in October 1872 only.

The Civil Dispensary.—During the period under review there was a total number of 9422 patients treated in the Civil Hospital ; of which, 572 were extern and 8850 intern patients. The majority of in-patients were self-supporting. In the last quarter of the year, when small-pox became epidemic and was raging within the Municipality, it was necessary to erect a small-pox

shed attached to the hospital, and in this temporary building a large number of patients was constantly found admitted. The total admissions of small-pox cases in 1872-73 were 136; of these, 53 or 39 per cent. of those admitted proved fatal. In January 1873 an application was made by this Municipality for the services of an additional Hospital Assistant to the local dispensary. There is at present only one subordinate medical officer at the hospital, but in such a large institution an addition to the hospital-staff is essentially requisite. Another Hospital Assistant will, however, be soon attached to the dispensary. Since writing the above, the Assistant has arrived at Cochin. Some repairs to the hospital were made in the year under review, which cost Rupees 31-8-9, including lime-washing. A concise report of the Civil Surgeon for the year 1872-73, with two returns of admissions and mortality in the Civil Dispensary, and a full report from that officer for the past calendar year, are herewith forwarded.

Vaccination.—In the latter part of the year under notice small-pox appeared in an epidemic form, and strenuous endeavours were made to promote vaccination amongst the people. When the disease showed itself there was only one Vaccinator maintained by the Municipality, but one person was soon found altogether inadequate for vaccine work. Two other Vaccinators were obtained in March 1873, who proved of much service to the place. The operations for the most part performed by their agency have been in the current year, and must be left to be fully noticed in the next report. In the year under review the total number of vaccinations was 1686; of which, 1190 were successful, 270 unsuccessful, and 226 are recorded as "result unknown." The operations of the year were thus 12·25 per cent. of the population, estimated at 13,453—a result which the Commissioners consider as highly satisfactory. The Commissioners have ever been anxious to spread vaccination amongst all classes of the community, and have endeavoured to impress on them, through the agency maintained for the purpose, its advantages and the protection to be obtained from it. Vaccination cannot, nevertheless, be expected to become very popular with certain classes who have their prejudices against it, which cannot be easily removed. It is strange that the people who showed the most opposition to the system at a time when small-pox was prevailing amongst them were the Mahomedans; but the great mortality in their location has caused a salutary dread, which has induced them eventually to allow vaccination. The vaccine establishment of the Municipality has used every effort to make the Mussulman population understand the object of vaccination; and the Commissioners believe that they have commenced to feel the extent of protection which it can afford. Besides the measures already alluded to, adopted by the Commissioners to contend with the increasing prevalence of the disease, they offered a small reward to every subject operated upon as an inducement to the people to appear for vaccination. This practice has proved useful. The arrangements for vaccination at Cochin, when small-pox was prevailing epidemically, the Commissioners think, were satisfactory, and the operations of the vaccine agency within municipal limits may be said to have in a degree controlled the disease. The greater portion of those who have been vaccinated belongs to the juvenile population.

Registration of Births and Deaths.—The best attention has been bestowed in ensuring accuracy and completeness in the local returns of vital statistics, since the duty of collecting these statistics was thrown on the Municipal Commission. In submitting the accompanying Register of Births and Deaths for the year under notice some remarks thereon appear necessary. The local registration of births and deaths is, there is no doubt, working satisfactorily. In 1872-73, the total number of registered births was 464; thus, the birth-rate in the year attained the normal standard of India. Its ratio to the population stands at 34·28 per mille, which figure indicates that the work of registration is carried on efficiently to secure accurate returns.

Deaths.—The mortuary registration for 1872-73 exhibits the following results in reference to the causes of death:—

Small-pox	296
Fever	56
Bowel Complaints	16
Suicide	1
Accidents and Wounds	3
Other Causes	227

The total deaths in the year, it will be observed, were 599, which show an increase over those of 1871-72 by 250. The excess is accounted for sufficiently by the great prevalence of small-pox in the year under review; the death-rate was thus abnormal, being 44·26 per mille of the population. Excluding the small-pox deaths, the rate of mortality would have been in 1872-73 two-and-a-quarter per cent, which is the average under ordinary circumstances of Indian town populations.

Small-pox.—Nearly half of the mortality in 1872-73 at Cochin was from small-pox. This epidemic reached its greatest intensity in the latter part of the official year; and on the whole made victims of 2·18 per cent of the population in the year under review. But it is worthy of observation that the focus of the disease was confined to the village of Calvetty, east of the town and within the municipal limits, which is densely populated by the Moplah community. The mortality amongst them was of an appalling magnitude; no less than 216 deaths, or 8·64 per cent. of their own population, which we casually reckon at 2500 souls, were recorded. Calvetty may be properly said to resemble some of the parcherries of Madras, inasmuch as it has always been in a filthy condition. The place is so laid out with huts or houses closely built, and the lanes so narrow as not to admit even dust-carts, that it neutralizes all attempts to make conservancy and cleanly habits practicable. In this state of things it is not to be wondered that, when an epidemic movement into the Municipality occurs, the disease first establishes itself firmly in the Moplah village of Calvetty, which becomes the centre of infection. This has been the case in all epidemic outbreaks. To prevent as much as possible the fouling of the soil, the most fertile source of disease, by filthy habits, the Commissioners constructed, in 1868-69, a large tub-shaped drain along the northern face of the village, emptying itself into the tidal river. Other important sanitary measures have been adopted, such as the erection of latrines, &c.; but, until the conditions of the village and the habits of the people are altered, we cannot expect much success. The reconstruction of the village on sanitary principles is now an impossibility; all that could be done by the Commissioners to lessen the chances of severe mortality in cases of epidemic outbreaks have been done, and its people are shown the necessity of improved sanitation. One source of constant anxiety to the Commissioners has been the existence of the old Moplah burying-ground in the midst of that community, which is still used. In 1872 and in the current year all small-pox victims of the Moplah class have been buried in this place, that had been long since full, and that has become a menace to the health of the whole town. It will be the earnest endeavour of this Commission to cause the closing of the Calvetty burying-ground without producing any discontent, or exciting the religious feelings of the Moplahs.

There is no doubt that we have passed through a cycle of small-pox epidemic in Southern India of great intensity. The disease has been prevailing since 1871; in the later months of that year it invaded the adjacent Native State of Travancore. Small-pox appeared at Cochin, but was sporadic, in the beginning of 1872, and it was not before the commencement of the next dry season, or the month of December, when the cold land wind blows with its greatest force that it attained much activity and had an epidemic significance. From December 1872 the disease reaped a heavy harvest of victims, and in the four last months of the official year under notice the number of small-pox deaths was 295. The development of the epidemic after November must be mainly ascribed to seasonal changes, and may also be due to the arrival of native crafts from infected places. There was little or no restriction placed on coasting crafts and other vessels arriving from the Persian Gulf, or the Arabian and other ports, before the adoption of quarantine rules, to prevent the importation of epidemics into Cochin, and it is probable that the development of small-pox may have been caused by the introduction of the disease by some of these vessels. The majority of the Moplahs of Calvetty are sea-farers, and any of them, it is presumed, may have brought the epidemic, which has proved so disastrous to their settlement. But we have

no data to prove this, and we assume it as a very likely cause from the almost insular position of Cochin in considering the question of the causation of small-pox. There was not a single cholera case in 1872-73; we have enjoyed immunity from this epidemic for many years.

Fever.—In the year under report the deaths from fever were fifty-six. Fever has seldom or never assumed an epidemic form in Cochin, and it may be said that this place is not within the influence of any malarial wave. Its local conditions will not permit the invasion of malaria; it is situated on the coast, and is fully exposed to the influence of the sea-air, which must neutralize fever-miasm, if it ever emanate here, or if it migrate to the sea-board.

Conservancy.—The best attention has been paid to the conservancy and sanitation of the town. All filth and rubbish are daily carted away, and dust-boxes are maintained for the deposit of the refuse of houses within the place. This is also regularly removed by the dust-carts. The privy-boxes are constantly kept clean, and the soil therefrom is daily carried away by the scavengers and thrown into the sea. The drains of the place are periodically cleaned and kept open for the discharge of water into the sea. The drainage is no doubt susceptible of much improvement, but the Commissioners regret that they are unable to undertake a thorough improved system with the means at their disposal. New drains and culverts are, however, constructed, whenever they are found necessary. The water-supply of the town is more than ample for the consumption of the people. The place being low there are many perennial tanks and wells which yield good drinkable water; and an adjacent fresh-water stream supplies excellent water to the European and Eurasian communities.

The appointment of a Nuisance Inspector in the Municipality has undoubtedly proved advantageous to the public. His duties are not confined only to the prevention and removal of nuisances, but include also the examination of weights and measures, the inspection of meat and other articles intended for human food, and the attending to matters of conservancy generally. Now that particular attention is being bestowed to the kind of cattle slaughtered for the food of the town community, the Commissioners find that there is no such general complaint or dissatisfaction in regard to the quality of the meat sold, which existed before.

Auditor's Report.—The Auditor's report for the year under review is herewith submitted in original.

COCHIN,
27*th October* 1873. (Signed) J. W. MAIDEN,
Vice-President.

CONCISE REPORT to accompany the Annual Abstract Return of Sick treated in the Civil Dispensary and Hospital, Cochin, during the year 1872-73.

During the official year ending 31st ultimo 572 cases were treated as intern and 8850 as extern patients in the Civil Hospital. Of the intern patients 136 were cases of small-pox, three cases of which were admitted from April to December last, and since January the disease has appeared as an epidemic, and been very fatal. The total deaths during the year among the intern patients were seventy-five, of which fifty-three resulted from small-pox.

2. There is a nice detached building belonging to the Civil Hospital for the reception of small-pox patients, but it was too small and it was necessary to erect a temporary structure 30×15 of bamboo and leaves in the compound.

3. No epidemic cholera appeared during the year. Considering the prevalence of fever in the early part of the year, and small-pox for the last three months, the general health can hardly be said to have been good.

4. The prevailing diseases were fevers, anœmia, dropsy, bronchitis, worms, ulcer, and small-pox.

5. The monsoon was copious, crops abundant, and prices moderate.

The finances of the hospital are in a satisfactory state; there is a balance on hand of Rupees 11-15-9, and Rupees 4,398-2-3 in deposit receipts in Bank of Madras.

COCHIN,
1*st April* 1873. (Signed) W. DOYLE, F.R.C.S.I.,
Civil Surgeon.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
7th April 1874.

1872-73, MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Europeans.

Abstract Return showing Sickness and Mortality in the Civil Dispensary and Hospital, Cochin.

CIVIL DISPENSARY.

	In-patients.	Out-patients.
Average annual strength	24	140
Remained on 31st March 1872	...	25
Admitted in 1872 :—		
April	4	84
May	3	59
June	5	62
July	4	60
August	1	127
September	2	34
October	3	121
November	5	59
December	4	84
Admitted in 1873 :—		
January	1	71
February	1	44
March	...	80
Total	33	885
Total treated	33	910
Died	1	...
Average daily sick for the year	2	11¼

(Signed) W. DOYLE, F.R.C.S.I.,
Civil Surgeon.

1872-73, MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Natives.

Abstract Return showing Sickness and Mortality in the Civil Dispensary and Hospital, Cochin.

CIVIL DISPENSARY.

	In-patients.	Out-patients.
Average annual strength	363	597
Remained on 31st March 1872	42	172
Admitted in 1872 :—		
April	57	768
May	39	717
June	40	597
July	52	647
August	49	870
September	31	816
October	24	722
November	36	862
December	36	663
Admitted in 1873 :—		
January	46	604
February	71	373
March	58	326
Total	539	7,965
Total treated	581	8,137
Died	74	1
Average daily sick for the year	30¼	48¼

(Signed) W. DOYLE, F.R.C.S.I.,
Civil Surgeon.

Civil Hospital and Dispensary, Cochin, 1872.

Miscellaneous Observations with reference to Annual Return of Sick.—The total number of patients treated in the Civil Hospital during the past year amounted to 10,610. Of these, 10,029 were extern and 581 intern patients. Of the latter 531 were self-supporting and 50 only were dieted by the hospital. This speaks well for the popularity of the institution, and of the esteem in which it is held by the people. I do not know how it may be in other places, but I should think that there are few Mofussil Hospitals in the Presidency which can show more self-supporting patients in proportion to the total number of in-patients than the Cochin Civil Hospital. From the above it will be seen that the working of the hospital has been most satisfactory.

A financial statement is appended, by which it will be apparent that the total revenue of the hospital amounted to Rupees 1,512-0-6; of which, Rupees 861-10-4 resulted from monthly subscriptions, Rupees 253-8-5 from the sale of medicines, Rupees 220 fees charged on the admission of sailors, and Rupees 175-14-9 from the interest of Rupees 4,398-2-3 deposit receipts in the Bank of Madras which has been added to the principal. The total expenditure was Rupees 1,287-9-3, so that there is a surplus of Rupees 172-2-2 to be carried to the account of the present year. One source of revenue, however, will probably soon fail, viz., that arising from the admission of sailors, as a Sailors' Hospital has been built, and will probably soon be opened. In September last the management of the hospital was transferred to the Municipal Commissioners, and the Dispensary Committee has ceased to exist. This and the removal of the second Hospital Assistant in September last are the chief changes which have taken place in the institution during the year. This reminds me to remark on the difficulty of carrying on a hospital so largely attended with so little subordinate medical assistance.

In corroboration of this I may quote the following remarks made in the Visitors' Book by the Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals on his last inspection :—

* * * * *

"Further it is to be added that there is very evidently a lack of subordinate medical assistance here, clearly one Hospital Assistant is wholly unequal to the work of such a hospital in addition to other duties that necessarily devolve on him, and it will be my duty to represent this need to the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department."

Surgeon-Major Day, Inspector of Fisheries, also observes :—

"I visited the Civil Hospital this day, everything is in my opinion most satisfactory with the exception that an additional Dresser is urgently required"

When I came here in March 1871 there were three Hospital Assistants, and now there is but one, and accordingly, although the work begins soon after daylight, the Hospital Assistant is often unable to leave the hospital till 1 or 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and then he has to attend to the Police Hospital, and sometimes at the jail, and to look after the sick of the following :— Public Department, Telegraph, Postal, Sea Customs, Public Works, Courts, &c., and to assist in the correspondence and general business of Palliport and Trichoor.

Many of the patients come to hospital in a helpless and some in a dying state without any friend to assist or look after them; the hospital servants are not to be depended upon, and there is enough of work for two Hospital Assistants in the Civil Hospital alone, without reference to the Police Hospital, Palliport, Trichoor, or the various Government Departments. Besides I have reason to think that the Municipal Commissioners who pay the Hospital Assistant for the Civil Hospital, and for that only, are likely to object to his time being occupied with so many Government Departments; this has been the subject of remark at a recent meeting, and it is not unlikely to become a matter of remonstrance on their part.

There was nothing remarkable in the climate of the past year which calls for any special observation. During the early part of the year the rain was a little below the average, and the weather in March and April was very hot in consequence. The monsoon also was a little late, but when it came it was copious and brought down the temperature several degrees. The total amount of rain during the year was 121·010 inches. The public health was good, although fever

was prevalent during the months of April and May, and dengue was said to prevail but dengue seemed to be in fashion about that time, and almost every feverish attack was called dengue. However I saw only one or two cases of the disease, and not a single case is registered in the hospital, which shows either that it was not so prevalent as people imagined, or that persons when attacked did not come to hospital, or if they did, that the disease was not diagnose. This last I think was not the case, as the fevers which came to hospital appeared to differ in no respect from the ordinary country fevers. No cases of cholera occurred during the year, and only three cases of small-pox were admitted, one of which proved fatal. Vaccination, however, is not as popular as could be wished. On going round some of the lanes recently with the Deputy Inspector-General to examine such of the children as we should chance to meet for marks of vaccination comparatively few were vaccinated, and as I was afterwards told some of the people said "If the children should get small-pox and die they should die, but they would not have them vaccinated." Small-pox used to be very prevalent here, and I much fear if the people will not take more kindly to vaccination that such may be the case again.

Exclusive of itch and worms the principal diseases were fever, rheumatism, dyspepsia, diarrhœa, bronchitis, anœmia, and dropsy; more than double the number of cases of fever and rheumatism were admitted in the past year than in 1872. I am unable to account for this, as I am not aware of any local cause why such should have been the case, but judging from the complaints made of fever throughout the country, I conclude this was rather a feverish year. General dropsy also was more prevalent by more than 200 cases than it was last year. On the other hand cases of anœmia have decreased more than half, and worms by more than one-fourth. The chief sources of mortality were dropsy and fever, eight persons having died of the former and seven from fever. The dropsical cases were chiefly beggars who I may say came to hospital to die, and of the fevers four of the fatal cases occurred in those who were in a debilitated or dying state on admission. Of the other diseases as small-pox, diarrhœa, dysentery, ulcer, &c., &c., there was one death each. I wanted to amputate in the case of ulcer, but the patient, a woman, would not consent in time, at last she consented, but she was then although not apparently dying pulseless, and the operation could not be attempted.

No cases of unusual interest presented themselves during the year, with the exception of the following:—A leper at Palliport put her foot into the fire when sleeping and without her knowledge burned off the entire dorsum, charring even the metatarsal bones, so that amputation was necessary. I had her brought to Cochin and performed Chopart's operation. The operation was done without chloroform and without pain to the patient, the wound healed well, and she has a good stump. Fifty-one operations were performed during the year as by the accompanying list.

The funds of the hospital are in a satisfactory state, for a detailed account I refer to the accompanying financial statement.

There is no lying-in ward.

The hospital buildings are in good order, but the rain comes in in many places, and it will probably be necessary to have the tiles turned and some repairs made on the roof before the monsoon sets in.

COCHIN, (Signed) W. DOYLE, F.I.C.S.I.,
1*st January* 1873. *Civil Surgeon.*

From Mr. J. REGNAUD, Auditor of the Municipal Accounts, Cochin, to Captain J. W. MAIDEN, Vice-President of the Municipal Commission, Cochin, dated Cochin, 11th October 1873.

Having in accordance with the resolution of the Commissioners, communicated to me in your letter of 30th July last, No. 212, audited the accounts of the Cochin Municipality for the year 1872-73, I have the honour to submit the following report for their information.

2. I have examined attentively the several Registers, the Cash-book, Ledger, and the Bank Pass-book, and have found all the entries therein to be correct. These books and all the accounts

of the Commission are carefully and well kept, and bestow much credit on Mr. DeCosta, the Manager.

3. I have verified every entry with the bills and vouchers, all of which are in order.

4. The total receipts of the Municipality in 1872-73 amounted to Rupees 11,119-9-1, but the balance on hand in the beginning of the year having been Rupees 3,949-1-6, the actual sum to the credit of the municipal accounts in the period under audit was Rupees 15,068-10-7. I have checked all items of receipts with the registers of counterfoils and bills, and have found them to be correct.

5. There was the total expenditure of Rupees 11,861-2-7 in 1872-73. The entries in the Cash-book are correct, and correspond with the vouchers which support them. The posting in the Ledger have been examined, and I am perfectly satisfied as to their corrections.

6. The balance on hand at the close of the year, or on the 31st March 1873, is Rupees 3,207-8-0. I find that a sum of Rupees 69-1-6 is the arrears of the tax on houses, buildings, and lands, and that Rupees 49-8-0 have also to be recovered on account of the tax on trades and professions.

7. I have here to express my satisfaction for the assistance afforded to me by Mr. DeCosta in the audit of the municipal accounts.

8. I regret that the circumstance of my ill-health should have prevented me from submitting this report earlier.

No. 36. ORDER THEREON, 7th April 1874, No. 552.

With his letter above recorded, the President of the Cochin Municipality submits the report for the year 1872-73. The estimates and actuals are compared below:—

RECEIPTS.

	Estimate. RS.	Actuals. RS.
Balance brought forward ...	2,330	3,949
Assignment by Government...	1,700	1,375
Rate on Houses	4,200	4,574
Tax on Arts	2,800	2,813
Tax on Vehicles	220	194
Registration of Carts	90	107
Fees	100	130
Fines	100	71
Endowments	1,850	1,017
Contribution from Local Funds	...	...
Miscellaneous	530	838
Total ...	13,920	15,068

CHARGES.

	Estimate. RS.	Actuals. RS.
Grant I.—		
New Works	1,000	1,240
Repairs	1,190	3,380
Grant II.—		
Results Grants...	1,000	160
Inspection...	...	12
Miscellaneous	...	19
Grant III.—		
Hospitals	2,890	812
Vaccination	120	140
Registration of Births and Deaths...	130	127
Conservancy	2,000	2,394
Grant IV.—		
Lighting	790	757
Watering Streets, &c. ...	1,300	241
Other items	...	891
Grant V.—		
Office...	1,490	1,497
Miscellaneous	200	189
Refunds	...	51
Balance	1,810	3,158
Total ...	13,920	15,068

1872/73 15

13

2. The total receipts exceeded the estimates by Rupees 1,148, the uncollected balance of the demand on account of taxes amounting at the close of the year to Rupees 118 only. The detailed items of receipt call for no remark, and the question of the necessity for the continuance of the Profession-tax, as recommended by the President in support of the Commissioners, will be considered by Government when dealing with the Budget for 1874-75.

3. The expenditure on Public Works amounted to Rupees 4,620 against an estimate of Rupees 2,190 supplemented in January by a further allotment of Rupees 2,139 for the Calvetty Bridge. The Municipal School was not opened until after the close of the year, hence the educational expenditure was limited to a sum of Rupees 160 for Results Grants and a small sum for Inspection and Miscellaneous Charges. The Dispensary was taken charge of by the Municipality during the year, and the working of the institution appears to have been most satisfactory, no less than 943 Europeans and 8718 Natives having been treated, of whom 614 were in-patients. The total charges were met from the Endowment funds, but here, as in the other Malabar Municipalities, there appears to have been unusual and unnecessary delay in adjusting the charges met from Provincial funds on account of salaries and medicines. The want of additional subordinates noticed by the Civil Surgeon has been supplied in the current year. The interest on the funded capital does not seem to have been received during the year under review.

4. Vaccination, Conservancy, and the other municipal matters were well-attended to, and the operations of the Commissioners appear to have been generally satisfactory and appreciated by the commu nity.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Cochin.
" " Local Fund Boards, Malabar.
" Board of Revenue.
" Revenue Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department.
" Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. J. Wright.

30-6-13 (3 III
1.3.27 (one

Govt. of [1874] Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

The PRESIDENT of the
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION
Cochin,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated April, 7th.
Read.

G.O., 7th April 1874, No. 552.

APRIL.
Nos. 35 36.

Cochin Municipality.—The annual report of this Municipality for 1872-73 reviewed.

1872/73. 15/16

Concise Report to accompany the Annual Abstract Return of sick treated in the Civil Dispensary and Hospital, Cochin during the year 1872-73.—

During the official year ending 31st ultimo 572 cases were treated as interns and 8,850 as extern patients in the Civil Hospital. Of the intern patients 136 were cases of small pox. Three cases of which were admitted from April to December last and since January the disease has appeared as an epidemic, and been very fatal. ~~The total deaths~~ during the year among the intern patients were 75 of which 53 resulted from small pox

There is a nice detached building belonging to the Civil Hospital for the reception of small pox patients, but it was too small and it was necessary to erect a temporary structure 30×15 of bamboo and leaves in the Compound.

No epidemic Cholera appeared

No. 14
Blank sheet.

during the year. Considering the prevalence of fever in the early part of the year and small pox for the last three months the general health can hardly be said to have been good.

The prevailing diseases were Fever, Anæmia, Dropsy, Bronchitis, Worms, Ulcer, and small pox.

The monsoon proved copious, crops abundant, and prices moderate.

The finances of the Hospital are in a satisfactory state there is a balance on hand of Rs 11. 15 9 and Rs 4390. 2. 3 in deposit receipts in Bank of Madras.

Cochin
16th April 1873.

Civil Surgeon

1873

Abstract Return showing the number of patients admitted and discharged in the Civil Hospital Cochin during the Month of March 1873

	Admitted												Discharged												Remained on 31st March 1873	Average Number of Patients
	1873												1873													
	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February		
Cholera																										
Small pox						1												1								
Fever	33	33	4	3	1	2	1	3	5	4	1	1	33	33	4	3	1	2	1	3	5	4	1	1	4	2.4
Dysentery																										
Diarrhœa																										
Rheumatism																										
Ulcers																										
Worms																										
Anæmia																										
Dropsy																										
Bronchitis																										
Remained on 31st March 1873	80	71	69	63	59	64	61	60	55	54	44	44	80	71	69	63	59	64	61	60	55	54	44	44		
Average Number of Patients	80	71	69	63	59	64	61	60	55	54	44	44	80	71	69	63	59	64	61	60	55	54	44	44		

Civil Patients 24
Civil Surgeon
Civil Patients 140

1873

1872/73

Medical Department

Natives

Abstract Return shewing sickness and mortality in the Civil Dispensary and Hospital Cochin.

		Average Annual Strength	Remained on 31st March 1872	Admitted 1872 April	May	June	July	August	Septr	Octr	Novr	Decr	1873 Janry	Febry	March	Total	Total treated	Died	Average daily sick for the year
Civil Dispensary	In patients	363	42	57	39	40	52	49	31	24	36	36	46	71	58	539	581	74	$30\frac{1}{4}$
	Out patients	597	172	768	717	597	547	870	816	722	862	663	604	373	326	7965	8137	1	$48\frac{1}{4}$

[signature]
Civil Surgeon

Financial 1873 Sept.

From

The President

Cochin Municipality

To

The Chief Secretary

to Govt

Fort St George

6th Dec. } 1873

Recd

No 27.

Encl. No 2267

Submitting the

Annual Report

of Cochin Munici-

pality for 72/73.

Fin. Go 552

7.4.74

No. 35.

Financial Department

25

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the President, Cochin Municipality dated 6th December 1873 No 27

Order thereon, 7th April 1874 No 552.

With his letter above recorded, the President of the Cochin Municipality submits the report for the year 1872/73. The estimates and actuals are compared below.

Receipts.	Estimate.	Actuals.
Balance brought forward.	2330-	3949.
Assignment by Govt.	1700-	1375.
Rate on Houses	4200.	4574.
Tax on Arts	2800.	2813.
Tax on vehicles	220.	194.
Registration of Carts	90.	107.
Fees	100.	130.
Fines	100.	71.
Endowments	1850.	1017.
Contribn from Local Funds	—	—
Miscellaneous	530-	838.
Total.	13920-	15068

Charges.

I. D.S.

See ad 22/1

This a review of what in 1872/3 was done & I think that we had better do some remarks as what shall be done in 1874/5 after the Budget of that year is

Charges.	Estimate.	Actuals.
Grant I.		
New works	1000	1240.
Repairs	1190	3380
Grant II.		
Results Grants	1000	160.
Inspection	"	12.
Miscellaneous	"	19.
Grant III.		
Hospitals	2890	812.
Vaccination	120	140.
Registrn of births & deaths	130	127.
Conservancy	2000	2394
Grant IV.		
Lighting	790	757
Watering streets &c.	1300	241.
other Items	"	891.
Grant V.		
Office	1490	1497.
Miscellaneous	200	189.
Refunds	"	57.
Balance	1810	3158
Total	13920 -	15,068

2. The total receipts exceeded the estimates by Rupees 1148, the uncollected balance of the demand on account of taxes amounting at the close of the year to Rs 118

Rupees 118 only. The detailed items of receipt call for no remark and the question of the necessity for the continuance of the Professional tax as recommended by the President in support of the Commissioners will be considered by Government when dealing with the budget for 1874-75.

3. The expenditure on Public Works amounted to Rs. 4620 against an estimate of Rupees 2190 supplemented in January by a further allotment of Rs. 2139 for the Cabretty Bridge. The Municipal school was not opened until after the close of the year, hence the educational expenditure was limited to a

a sum of Rs 160 for Results grants and a small sum for Inspection and Miscellaneous charges. The Dispensary was taken charge of by the Municipality during the year, and the working of the institution appears to have been most satisfactory, no less than 9453 Europeans and 8718 Natives having been treated, of ~~which~~ whom 614 were in-patients. The total charges were met from the Endowment funds, but here, as in the other Malabar Municipalities, there appears to have been unusual and unnecessary delay in adjusting the charges met from Provincial funds on account of salaries

Note

I do not object to the draft as it stands in respect to the Tax on Professions and to the discussion being deferred for the present, but I hope that His Excellency will not insist on the addition proposed.

I think a strong case is made ~~out~~ for the retention of the tax in this instance, as there are no Tolls and the population of the Town is of a character

character which
absolutely requires
a middle class School
of the kind proposed.
There is a large class
of persons above the
lowest classes, who
are in indigent circum-
=stances and need
instruction of a
kind which is much
above Pial teaching

I myself hold
the strongest opinion
that the old National
Professional tax
is a most valuable
and not unpopular
source of Municipal
income, and deprecate
cordially even it's
temporary

temporary abandonment
Here at least there
is no reason to force
this change and abrogate
the Law against the
feeling of the people,
who do not complain
of the tax; and I consider
that in Every Town
one good School (or
more) of the Grammar
School class is needed
besides Pial or pauper
Elementary Schools.

In Cochin at least
I would earnestly - after
long & intimate acquaintance
with its people - support
the wish of the Commissioner
and Superintendent Pendrot

22/1 1862

salaries and medicines. The want of additional Subordinates noticed by the Civil Surgeon has been supplied in the current year. The interest on the funded capital does not seem to have been received during the year under review.

Vaccination, Conservancy and the other Municipal matters were well attended to, and the operations of the Commissioners appear to have been generally satisfactory and appreciated by the community.

J. K.

To, The President, Munl. Comrs. 6
" " " L. Fd. Cochin 6
" Board of Revenue " Malabar 14
" Revenue department 6
" Public Works Dept. 21
" Inspector Genl., Indian Med. Dept. 6
" Sanitary Commissioner 6
" Dy. Public Instruction 7
" Accountant Genl. 6

dest. 14/4 110C

Govt. of {1874} Madras.

Financial

To

The Presdt. Munc. Commr
Cochin
for

Dated Apl. 7 } 1874, No. 552.
Recd.

Nos. 35. 36

Cochin Munc. The Annual report of this Municipality for 1872-73 Received.