L. & M.
8,000-8-8-96.

Local & Munl. (1895) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1085 M

DATED 10th July 1895.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Appointment of a paid Official Chairman to the Trichinopoly Municipality

Requesting, with remarks, the Chairman, Municipal Council, Trichinopoly, to comply with the terms of G.O., dated 16 February 1895, No. 245 M.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Reply to R.C. $\frac{549(b)}{\text{Rev}}$ of 95

524
13-4-95

From

Lieutenant H. Vickers
Nominated Municipal
Councillor and
Station Staff Officer
Trichinopoly

To

15 APR. 95

The Collector
of
Trichinopoly

14/4

Sir,

With reference to your No. R.C. $\frac{549}{95}$ of the 11th instant, I have the honor to inform that the N. B refered to is correct as regards my desire to have my name entered as dissenting. In conjunction with

with the Reverend Father Sewell I stated at the meeting that I had no objection to the Chairman forwarding the letter provided certain modifications and alterations were made - to this the Chairman agreed promising to submit the modified letter to Father Sewell - this was not done vide copy of letter from the Chairman attached.

I then Officially requested the Chairman to lay the letter after alteration before the Council prior to its being forwarded to

to Government (vide Extract attached) and I also wrote privately to him asking to see his amended letter, his reply being evasive and the letter not being forthcoming I called on him to Enter my name as dissenting which apparently he has done.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient Servt
J. H. Vickers Lt
Asst Staff Officer

1/1808 M of 25

419
23.3.95.

4

From

The Station Staff Offr.
Trichinopoly

To

The Chairman M.C.
Trichinopoly

Sir,

x x x

x x x

3. I also wish to call on you as Chairman to inform me why the letter you addressed to the Government was not again laid before the Council after certain alterations and modifications has been made as promised by you to the Councillors.

I have &c.
(Sd) H. Vickers Lieut
Stn Staff Offr.

(True Extract)

H Vickers Lt
Stn Staff Offr.

STATION STAFF OFFICE
471
3.4.95.
TRICHINOPOLY

5

From

The Stn Staff Offr.
Trichinopoly

To

The Chairman M.C.
Trichinopoly.

Sir,

Adverting to para 3 of my letter No. 449 of 23rd Ulti: mo, it is hoped that the N.B. shewing my name as one of the Dissenters was recorded in the Council Book as promised by you in your letter No. 1163 of the 26th March 1895 and in failure of which I have the honor in the capacity of a Councillor to demand that you will be good enough

2/1808 M of 95

6

enough to lay before the Council at its next sitting, the amended letter to Government anent your resignation as Chairman prior to its submission.

I have &c.

(Sd) H. Vickers Lt.
Stn Staff Offr.

(True Copy.)

H Vickers Lt
Stn Staff Offr

3/1808 M.4.95

Municipal Council's
Office

No 1163. Trichinopoly 26.3.95.

From

M. R. Ry
S. T. Rungaswami Aiyar
Avl B.A & B.L.
Rao Bahadur
Chairman, M.C.
Trichinopoly

To

The Station Staff Officer
Trichinopoly.

Sir,

× × ×
× × ×
× × ×
× × ×
× × ×

With regard to para 3 of your letter*, I am afraid that you are mistaken in supposing that I promised to lay my letter again before the Council. I am not aware I pledged myself to any such thing. No less than fourteen of

*No 419 of 23-3-95

of the members present approved of my letter without qualification and it was Father Sewell, that stated he had no objection to the letter being forwarded and suggested that some verbal alterations had better be made. I promised to send the letter on to Father Sewell to help me to make the said corrections, but as he wrote to me to say that he wanted to be classed amongst the neutrals, I did not care to trouble him, as my promise to subject my letter to operation at his hands was conditional upon his approving of the same.

In your case you may

may remember you also shared Father Sewell's sentiments at first and you re-iterated this opinion in your note of that evening from the Club.

Later on however you seem to have changed your mind and wrote requesting that your name should be entered with the Dissenters. I had considerable doubts whether the Proceedings book could be altered in this way but I shall however add a N.B to this effect in the Book.

I have &c
(Sgd) S.T. Krishnasami
for Chairman
(True Extract)

H Vickers
[illegible]

4/
1808 Nov 95

6

Extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Council for the town of Trichinopoly passed at the meeting held on the 14th March 1895.

Present

	M.R.Ry. S.T. Rungaswami Aiyar Avargal B.A., B.L., Rao Bahadur ..	Chairman
2.	Mahomed Khadir Nawaz Khan Sahib Khan Bahadur ..	Revenue Officer
3.	Lieut. F. Vickers ..	Councillor
4.	Rev. Father J.D.W. Sewell S.J.	Do.
5.	Mahomed Fariduddien Sahib ..	Do.
6.	M.R.Ry. Ayakannu Pillai Avargal	Do.
7	" W. Sivaswami Pillai Avargal	Do
8.	" T.S. Ponnusami Devar Avargal	Do
9.	" T.A. Soosai Pillai Avargal	Do.
10.	" T. Kristnasami Nayadu Garu	Do.
11.	" T.S. Narayanasami Pillai Avargal	Do.
12	" T.M. Subramania Pillai Avargal	Do.
13.	" S.T. Kristnaswami Aiyar Avargal	Do.
14.	Mahomed Sirajuddien Sahib	Do.
15.	M.R.Ry. N. Subramania Aiyar Avargal	Do.
16.	" T.S. Umamaheswara Aiyar Avargal	Do.
17.	" V.S. Chellappa Chettiar Avargal	Do.
18	" Kotta Ramasami Chettiar Avargal	Do.
19	" C. Vythilingam Pillai Avargal	Do.
20	" M. Pathmanaba Chettiar Avargal	Do.

Para

Para 113. Read G.O. № 245 M. dated 16th February 1895 inviting the present Chairman to resign his position and requesting the Council to select an official in his place on a pay of Rs 250 in the month.

× × ×

The letter of the Chairman is approved and respectfully submitted for favourable consideration.

Mahomed Khadir Navaz Khan Sahib
Khan Bahadur ..
M.R.Ry Soosei Pillai Avargal .. dissenting
" Chellappa Chettiar Avargal ..

M.R.Ry M. Pathmanaba Chettiar Avargal : neutral

(Signed) S.T. Rungaswami
Chairman

N.B. After the proceedings had closed and towards the evening of the day, Rev. Father Sewell who in the morning expressed himself as having no objection to

to the forwarding of the Chairman's letter, provided some verbal alterations were made, wrote to the Chairman a note to say that in the Resolution book he should be entered as neither for nor against — ie neutral.

Lieut. Vickers wrote a similar letter later on, in which he enters his opinion that in case some sentences were altered, he also had no objection to the letter being sent on. The next day, however, he seems to have altered his mind and addressed a letter requesting that his name should appear among the 'dissenting'.

It is a matter of considerable doubt if after votes are taken and recorded at a meeting where the matter is threshed out, any Councillor is at liberty to require after several hours that his vote be withdrawn and the Proceedings Book altered at his pleasure.

20. 3. 95 (Signed) S.T. Rungaswami

(True Copy)

Municipal Office
Trichinopoly
5th April 1895

S.T. Rungaswami
Chairman, M.C.

13

Local & Municipal Dep
CURRENT No. 1239/M

No. 12.

MUNICIPAL COUNCILLORS' OFFICE,

TRICHINOPOLY 14th March 1895.

FROM,

M. R. Ry. S. T. RUNGASWAMI AIYAR Avl., B A & B L.
Rao Bahadur,
Chairman,
Municipal Council,
TRICHINOPOLY.

To,

The Honorable the Chief Secretary to Government,
Local and Municipal Department,
FORT ST. GEORGE.

SIR,

I am in due receipt of G. O. No 245 dated 16th February 95 containing a pronouncement against me of unsatisfactory working and directing that as a rectification the Council should put itself to an extra expenditure of Rs. 3000 in the year towards maintaining a Government official in the chair, which I am invited to vacate.

2. Before proceeding to take any action as indicated therein, I beg most respectfully to submit that I feel that I have to my great shame and sorrow been painted more dark than I really do deserve.

3. The reasons inducing Government towards this extreme step are:—

A. 1. That no definite information is furnished in my letter No. 30 dated 10th December 1894 as to the steps taken by the Councillors to arrest the advance of cholera in its outbreak of 1893.

2. That the inspections made by me of the town were by no means frequent.

3. That such visits as were made to it were usually of an ordinary character having no relation to the severe outbreak of cholera which prevailed.

4. That there is nothing in my report to show that the orders which I issued were actually carried into effect.

B. 1. The work of inspection and supervision of so large a town like Trichinopoly, can only be properly carried out by a trained officer, who can give his whole time uninterruptedly to it.

2. That the appointment of a paid Government-official would result in a saving to the Municipality.

4. I shall first address myself to the financial aspect of the question before proceeding to the other, which is more of a personal character.

5. Just here it may not be out of place to mention that this very question was once before considered when a former Council petitioned Lord Connemara to allow us a paid Chairman, and the advice was tendered, that in the then state of our finances, a paid Chairman would be too costly a luxury. This very sensible advice was adopted by us in an unanimous resolution of the Council during the Chairmanship of Mr. Patridge, under date 13—5—89.

vide G.O. 739 M/c 2-7-88 & 787 M/c 26-6-89.

6. Nor have matters improved any bit for the better. A perusal of G. O. No. 2113 M. dated 30th November 91 will show, that with extreme pinching and scraping and the opening up of all available sources of income, the utmost financing on our part on account of the Water Works only produces an additional income of Rs. 28,200 while the amount actually required for the said purposes is nothing less than Rs. 35,046 in the year thus leaving a deficit of Rs. 6,846 staring us in the face.

7. The floods of November 1893 caused serious damages to the Head works and necessitated a further loan of Rs. 50,000 thus increasing the deficit by a probable further sum of Rs. 3 or 4 thousand. The out look, it should be confessed, is rather gloomy. It would indeed be most hard just now to hamper the Municipality with an extra 3000 in the year as Chairman's pay when we are already in a fix to provide ways and means for this insatiable deficit.

The estimate has since been raised from 444, 250 to 5,02,050.

8. I now proceed to invite the consideration of Government to the other aspect of the question which as already submitted is of a personal character.

9. The first of these charges is that no definite information is furnished as to the steps taken by the Councillors to arrest the advance of the epidemic. I have already submitted to Government that it was not possible to supply any definite information as to each and every day's doing of theirs.

9. *a.* They keep no systematic diary books of their own, and the record of their doings as contained in the office diaries is unfortunately not available for inspection—the same having been sold away as waste paper in the beginning of last year.

9. *b.* The reports sent up by these Ward Councillors show how these gentlemen have been going their daily rounds in the cause of proper sanitation; how they have never been lacking in their efforts towards securing cleanliness for their respective Wards; how they have even been going into affected houses, administering medicines—a step which even the special Apothecary was afraid to take—and how besides enforcing proper and requisite disinfection, they have been taking care that the vomits and excreta were properly removed and disposed of. For my part I do not see any reason whatever to doubt the assurances of these honorable gentlemen and in some cases I have personal knowledge that they are not overstating things. My thanks are due to them all for their most dutifully doing their work at such personal risk during a season of such general panic and dismay.

I have seen nothing of the sort.

10. The second shortcoming noticed in the G. O. under reference is that the inspections I made of the town were not frequent. I am bound in justice to myself to plead not guilty to this head of charge. I have already stated in my letter No 30 dated 10th December 94 above alluded to, that the list of my inspections as detailed therein is not exhaustive. Sometimes I go my rounds without any previous notice to the Inspectors concerned and any shortcomings which I notice and which require to be rectified are entered in my note book and orders are issued from the office towards remedying defects. In the other cases where the Inspectors also accompany me in my perambulations, my orders are issued on the spot and being verbal of course find no mention in my book. In my letter under reference I have already mentioned an instance in point. I have stated of an inspection made in company with a Subadar Major Sirdar Bahadur where finding a plague spot used unauthorisedly as a latrine, I had a thatch latrine put up and worked. This, though an important piece of work in connection with the epedemic, finds no mention in my diary. From this I have evolved an argument for the consideration of Government, that it would be hardly just and scarcely proper to conclude, that the little book from which I have made extracts contain in any way a full and exhaustive summary of all the work done by me. Besides this, the diaries of the Ward Inspectors submitted every week to the office are not available for reference. In these is opened out a column in which the Inspectors note the days, on which the Chairman visited their divisions and any observations made or orders issued by the Chairman. These diaries unfortunately are not now available for use, and a grand opportunity is thus denied to me of showing to the Government that they are not altogether justified in convicting me of short work.

11. Then again it is observed that even such inspections as were actually made by me were but of an ordinary character without any special reference to the epidemic of cholera.

I am not ashamed to confess that I am not much acquainted with the ways of this mysterious but dread disease. I have not read any special treatises on the subject—and I am told that several scientists have written several books on the subject containing various views of the matter—and I am therefore not in a position to know whether any inspection has any special relation to cholera or not. I have however heard it said that general uncleanliness is most fatally conducive to the rapid multiplying of the microbes, and I therefore specially directed my attention to see that the town was kept in as cleanly a condition as our limited finances and establishment would allow. To this end, I made it a special point to see that the drinking water tanks were frequently flushed and that the water course was properly watched, that the streets were scrupulously cleaned out, the houses were properly whitewashed, that the slaughter houses were regularly supervised and no bad food offered for sale, that the latrines were well kept, and well supplied with dry earth, that sewage was regularly removed and disposed of, that privies of houses were cleaned out twice in the day and that in sundry other ways a general condition of cleanliness was maintained in our markets, cart stands &c. &c.

11. *a.* If my inspections were unfortunately directed to a wrong end, and had no particular reference to the epedemic, it was because I had no training in the particular school and the Local Medical Officer did not care to open my eyes to the novel way of doing things. Surgeon Lieut. Col. W. O'Hara, our present District Medical and Sanitary Officer will tell you that I am the most tractable Chairman, and if the then District Medical and Sanitary Officer whose hearty co-operation I had every right to expect had only indicated to me, the proper channels along which my energies ought to have been directed, I suppose I should have performed my duties in a manner better to enlist the appreciation of Government.

No doubt he [illegible]

It should just here be borne in mind that the scheme suggested by Dr. King contains several novel features about it; and Government itself has before adopting his suggestions either in whole or in part called for further detailed information as to the practical working of it and towards this end has appointed a Sub-Committee to report in the matter. I have already submitted how the arrangements made by me during the season are a substantial conforming to the spirit of his suggestions.

[illegible] then shown?

12. The fourth defect pointed out in my report is that it does not contain information as to whether my orders were followed by action. Of course they were. I should certainly not have wasted stationery and energy for the purpose, if I had reasons to suppose that my orders would remain so many bits of waste paper more honored in the breach than the observance. The Inspectors and the Councillors who often used to see me would report to me the results and there would be an end of the matter. I can assure Government that with the exception of a few cases which required estimates being prepared by the Oveseer, the other orders did indeed procure compliance.

What facts? [illegible]

13. It will thus be seen in the light of the facts above submitted that the charges directed *personally* against *me* are of no great weight or significance. The first charge that my inspections of the town were not frequent, falls to the ground, when it is borne in mind, that I have already drawn your attention to the circumstance, that the list furnished by me of the inspecting work I did is not a full or exhaustive one; that the Inspectors' diaries, which, containing as they do a column about the Chairman's visits, will materially help us to draw up such a list, are not forthcoming, having been sold as waste paper when the office was shifted from the Cantonment to the Fort proper.

14. To the 2nd charge that the said inspections were of an ordinary character, I have already pleaded that I am not a specialist and that to my sorrow know no better. I had always thought—not having orders otherwise—that during the prevalence of cholera the Chairman should pay particular attention to the Water Supply, Drainage, Latrines, Privies, Slaughter houses, Markets, Cartstands &c., in short to insist upon it that the town was maintained in a special state of cleanliness, and towards this end, I had even been going out to the mustering places in the chill unpleasent 5 o'clock weather of the season even with an empty stomach to ascertain for myself that the several menial servants turned up in time to do their allotted and respective work, and for all this and after approved service of nearly half a dozen years I am kicked downstairs without a warning and without any word of explanation being allowed.

15. The 3rd charge laid to my account is that in my report it is not stated if any action followed my orders. This is an omission which can easily be supplied. This charge I have already met in para 12 supra and I do not think it necessary that any more should be added to it, as I take it that Government will concede that there is not much weightiness in the charge to warrant the extreme measures adopted in the case.

16. It is now some five years and two months since I took up appointment as the first elected Chairman of this Municipality and during all this while I have been doing my duties to the entire satisfaction of the Councillors and the people. While many a Council of the adjoining districts had been shewing signs of disease, of dissensions within and dissatisfaction without, mine has been affording the very comfortable spectacle of an exemplary Council working most harmoniously and most willingly towards securing efficiency of administration.

17. It has been during my time that the very expensive scheme for supply of pure water to the town was undertaken and nearly accomplished. The said scheme has been calling into play the utmost of our powers towards financing, and I have had the very unpleasant duty to perform of taxing the ratepayers to the utmost, by placing upon their shoulders extra burdens by way of increased taxation,

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and the opening up of new sources of income and economising all channels of expenditure. My administration has not been therefore a bed of roses altogether; and in my career involving much sacrifice of my professional income as a Vakil of the High Court of Madras, my steady aim has been to secure the appreciation of Government which I am happy to acknowledge has been year after year gladdening me by words of encouragement as will be seen from the following extracts.

G. O. $\frac{1660}{6-11-90.}$

The large increase in the number of meetings held by the Council is satisfactory.

The **current collections** under the taxes on buildings, lands & arts were better than in 88—89 and were on the whole **very satisfactory** and the percentage of **arrear collections** under the tax on buildings was **fair**.

Vehicles, carts and animals. The **collections** were **better** and the **balances small**.

The **increase in the revenue** under the sale of sweepings is **very satisfactory**.

The Vaccination results shew a **further improvement**.

From the Sanitary Commissioner's last inspection notes it appears that the **sanitary condition** of the Town was **better** in 89 *than in precious years* and that the Council is trying to effect **further improvement**

The results of the year's administration in the matter of medical relief were **decidedly good** and the *Govt notes with pleasure* the testimony borne by the Chairman to the assistance rendered to him by his colleagues.

G. O. $\frac{1334\ M.}{21-8-91.}$

The **house and land tax** Registers were revised during the year with the result that the **net demand was increased by Rs. 5462**. The **result** may be accepted as **satisfactory**.

The increase in the current demand and collections under the tax on Vehicles with springs and animals and the tax on carts, the income from tolls, License fees and the sale proceeds of sweepings &c. is **noted with satisfaction**

The work done by the Mahomedan school appears to have been fair: and the expenditure on the training of teachers is **noted with satisfaction**

Vaccination shewed **a very striking improvement**.

The **registration** of Vital statistics also shewed **considerale improvement**.

The **administration** of the Municipality **shows an improvement in most respects** as compared with the previous year and the Government notes with pleasure the testimony borne by the Chairman to the cordial assistance afforded him by his colleagues

G. O $\frac{1287}{3-8-92}$

The **Collections** were **considerably better** than those of 90—91.

The **increase in the receipts** from the tax on Vehicles with springs and animals, and in those from markets and slaughter houses is **satisfactory**

The steps taken to introduce and **extend the private scavengering** system are **noted with approval**

The general condition of the **roads** is reported to have been **good**.

Vaccination **reflects much credit** on the Municipal Council.

The **quality of the work** done was also **very good**.

It appears from the Chairman's report that the Council have of late been making some attempts *to* **improve the Sanitary condition of the Town**.

The proceedings detailed in para 32 (Sanitation of private lands) are *noted with approval*

The **energetic measures** taken to **combat the eholer a epedemic** were **creditable** *to the Council.*

The **administation** of the Municipality was on the whole *fair*. The Governmet notes with pleasure the testimony borne by the Chairman to the assistance rendered to him by his colleagues.

G. O. $\frac{\text{1129 M.}}{\text{25-8-93}}$

The **increase in the receipts** from the sale of sweepings, License fees and fines is **satisfactory**.

The Revenue Divisional officer reports that the main **roads** in the Town *are in* **fair** *order.*

There was improvement in the attendance of both Municipal and aided schools and the results of the examinations were fair.

The number of out patients showed an increase of 8617, which is apparently due to the increasing popularity of these institutions.

The fact that 708 Prosecutions were instituted for failure to vaccinate children shows that the Council is beistirring itself in the matter.

The Government is glad to note from the District Surgeon's Report that there has been **some improvement in the Sanitary condition of the Town**.

The **administration** of the Municipality seems to have been on the whole **fairly efficient**.

G O. $\frac{\text{1180}}{\text{31-8-94}}$

There was a **considerable rise in the income** from the sale of sweepings, market rents and cartstand fees. **The increase in the amount** realised from fines is **satisfactory**.

The **roads** are reported by the Divisional officer to have been generaly in **good** condition.

From the District Surgeon's report it would appear that there **has been some improvement in respect of sanitation**.

The **demand of the tax** on Vehicles animals and carts was **raised** and the **revenue** markets, slaughter houses, rent of lands and buildings, fines, conservancy and scavengering fees **increased**.

18. The above extracts will clearly show that I have been year after year jealously weighed by Government and not found wanting. Credit for efficiency is given to me not with regard to one particular Department of my administration but I have been eliciting the approbation of Government for watchful care bestowed on all and every department of this Municipality. The revenues from house and land taxes, vehicles and animals, sweepings and slaughter houses, markets and cart-stands, Fines and licence fees have all been considerably increased and the attention bestowed on education, medical relief, vaccination, roads and sanitation have been noted by Government with great satisfaction.

19. On the reports of several District Medical Officers and Sanitary Commissioners, Government has given me credit year after year for improving the Sanitary condition of the town and it was only on the 3rd August 1892 that Government wrote down that the energetic measures taken to combat the cholera epidemic were creditable to the Council. The indefatigable Dr. W. O'Hara, our present District Medical and Sanitary Officer also appreciates my work and I believe has also reported very favorably of me in his last report about cholera sent up a few weeks ago.

20. Just here I solicit permission to quote the opinion of a first Grade District Munsif who can be expected as being on the spot to know things and gauge opinion "The Chairman devotes to the work time and energy which if devoted to his profession would have been lucrative and profitable."

21. I may also be permitted to quote a few lines from a letter to me by the Hon Dr. Duncan our present esteemed Director of Public Instruction. "I was very pleased to see that you were taking so much interest in educational matters in Trichinopoly. It is a great satisfaction to an old teacher to see his former pupils filling and *filling worthily* honorable positions in life".

22. The above will make it very clear that save and except the report of Dr. King whose charges as fulminated in the beginning of this letter I have attempted to meet successfully, I have been as Chairman doing as much as can be desired. The fact is, that having accepted the responsibility of the Chairmanship of this large Municipality, I have been devoting not less than four hours every day of my most precious time to the work of administering its affairs satisfactorily.

23. This work of supervision and management promises to be better done hereafter than ever, as my brother a graduate in arts and a first grade pleader has since joined the Council and is giving three hours of his time every day to doing vigorous office work. He also relieves me in my professional work, thus enabling me to devote even more time to the discharge of Municipal duties. Between us both we are now giving seven hours in all to the work—as much I suppose as Government expects a paid Chairman on Rs. 3,000 to do—and I flatter myself that a very bright future is before this Municipality.

24. This improved system of working would, it is respectfully hoped, allay the apprehensions of Government that the affairs of this Municipality require a full timed and paid Chairman; and in this view of the case, I beg to solicit in all humility that Government will be pleased to reconsider the matter, and order that the present system with the improvement now effected do continue for some two years longer-on a kind of probation as it were—after which time Government may, if dissatisfied with the results, pass final orders in the case.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

R. Rungaswami

Chairman M. C.

Local ~~and~~ Municipal Dept.
CUR. No. 1234/M
R

20

From, M. R. Ry S. T. Rungaswamiengar Avl B.A. B.L. Rao Bahadur

CHAIRMAN
Municipal Council,
TRICHINOPOLY.

To,

The Chief Secretary to
Government,
Local and Municipal
Department,
FORT ST. GEORGE.

Through the

Dated 14
Despatched 5th } ~~March~~ April 1895.
Received

CHIEF SECRETARY
6 APR. 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

No. 12
ENCLOSURE. 1
SUBJECT.

Requesting that the Government will be pleased to reconsider its order No 245 M dated 16th February 95 inviting the present Chairman to resign his position.

Currents. 1221·M 704·M
1196 585
1040
783

G.O's
245 4 95
1936 7 94
1723 7 94
1275 7 94
1287 7 92
1334 7 91
2113 7 91
1180 7 94
613 7 94
1347 7 93
1129 7 93
2008 7 91
457 7 90
1660 7 90
1739 7 89.
534 7 93
61 7 93
87 7 93
24 7 93

CS

C 549/Rev of 95

No. 564

Returned to the Chairman, Municipal Council, Trichinopoly for submission through the Collector.

Sd. Wedderburn Price
~~Ag. Assistant~~ Chief Secretary

CGT
22-IV

V.R.
20/4/95

Fort St. George.
25th April 1895.

Resubmitted

6.5.95 }
Trichy }

R. Rungaswami
Chairman

COLLECTOR AND MAGISTRATE
8 - MAY. 95
TRICHINOPOLY.

To,

The Chairman, Municipal Council,

Trichinopoly.

(with an end[illegible]

Ref. to R.C. No. 549(C)/Rev of 95

21

Trichinopoly
14: April 1895.

From,

The Revd. Father J. D W. Sewell S.J.
Manager
Saint Joseph's college
Trichinopoly.

EC
15 APR. 95

To

The Collector
Trichinopoly.

Sir,

In reply to your letter R.C. 549/Rev of 1895, I have the honor to state that the Chairman's N.B to which my attention has been drawn is incorrect & misleading. He implies that I changed my mind whereas it is he that made, I am willing to believe, a mistake.

2. The votes were taken in the midst of a great deal of confusion and talking. The Chairman did not ask me for my vote and I am quite certain that I did not give it as I had already expressed my opinion on the matter in which Lieut. Vickers had agreed, I concluded that he understood that I did not intend to vote & therefore I did nothing.

3. When I was getting into my carriage Mr. Susai Pillay & Mr. Mahomed Khadir Nawaz Khan Sahib told me the Chairman had entered my vote as favourable to the Resolution. I at once said this was a mistake but having an engagement I could not then return to the room and said I should write to the Chairman as soon as I get home which I did.

4. The view I had expressed at the meeting was this. That the Order of Govt. was in the form of a decision arrived at after sufficient Enquiry and did not ask the Council for any opinion on the advisability or otherwise of having a paid chairman, and that I thought such a protest would not receive attention and that the Council would be putting themselves in a false position by making it.

5. The Chairman says I expressed myself as "having no objection to the forwarding of the Chairman's

letter". This is not fair. What I said was that I did not see any objection to the Chairman forwarding his letter to Govt. but I thought that there were certain objectionable Expressions in it which it was advisable he should alter. Now first this was said after the voting was all over and the meeting had broken up and secondly I take it, it is one thing to say there is no objection to the chairman sending in a respectful defence of his Conduct & quite another to adopt that letter as a resolution of the Council. On this point I did not intend to vote because first; for reasons stated I was not in favor of it and secondly I wished to reserve my vote till it should be asked for by Govt.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant.

5/1808 M of 95

D.C.S. No. 1438/95
Rev

Trichinopoly Collector's
~~District Magistrate's~~ Office,
4th June 1895.

Local & Municipal Dept
No. 1808 M

FROM
E. A. Elwin Esquire,
Ag. Collector
~~DISTRICT MAGISTRATE OF~~
Trichinopoly

TO
THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Local & Municipal DEPARTMENT,
MADRAS.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit with my remarks letter No. 12 dated 14th March '95, desp. 5th April '95 from the Chairman of the Trichinopoly Municipal Council requesting Government to re-consider its Order No. 245 M dated 16th February 1895.

2. Paras 5, 6, & 7. There is, I think, but little doubt that a paid Chairman would soon be able to raise the annual receipts of the Municipality by at least the amount of his own salary. The adoption of a systematic method of giving out market, rubbish, and other Contracts would alone, I believe, bring about the required addition to the revenue. The fact of the matter is that the affairs of this most important Municipality can be administered to the best advantage only by a Chairman who can devote his whole time thereto.

3. Paras 9 – 16. These refer to the action

aken by the Chairman to Suppress the Cholera utbreak of 1893-94. The question is whether the rguments now put forward are Sufficiently ogent to Call for a re-Consideration of the Orders lready passed. I beg to Submit that they are not.

4. Para 17. The Chairman has extracted from the various orders of Government Such portions as are favourable to him, and passed over all that is unfavourable.

5. Paras 22 & 23. The Chairman practically admits that he has Constituted his brother his Assistant in Office. It Seems to me extremely doubtful whether a municipal Chairman Can properly delegate his powers to Another Councillor in this wholesale manner, and it is difficult to imagine that the Chairman Can exercise an efficient Check over all the work turned out by his brother during the three hours that the latter is Said to devote every day to the business of the Office.

6. Coming now to the resolution of the Council, which is attached to the Chairman's letter, I beg to point out that the majority

majority of the persons who approved of the letter appear to be the very ward Councillors whose Conduct is animadverted on in para 1 of the Government Order and their approval Cannot therefore Count for much. As to t N.B. appended to the resolution, which ref on the two Europeans who attended the meeting, I Can only Say that it Contains an utter misrepresentation of facts, as will be clearly Seen from the replies herewith Submitted, of the Revd Father Sewell and Lieut. Vickers to a reference from this Office on the Subject.

7. In Conclusion, I must express my regret that the Chairman Should have delayed the Submission of his reply to the Government Order which was Communicated to him with the Collector's endorsement on 20th February, until 5th April, that is, until after the departure on leave of Mr. Andrew, who, having had Considerable experience of the working of the municipality would probably have been able to offer Some valuable Comments on the letter now Submitted.

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

5/6
Ag. Collector

Vl.

Local & Municipal Dept.
CURR. 1895 No. 1808 M

26

From

E. A. Elwin Esqre
Collector
Trichinopoly

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Local & Municipal Department
Madras

Dated 4th }
Despd 5th } June 1895
Recd 7 JUN. 95

Dis. No. 1438/95
Enclos: (3) 5 Recd
& C. No. 1235 M. noted

Submitting with remarks letter from the Chairman Trichinopoly Municipal Council requesting Government to reconsider its order No. 245 M. D/16-2-95 inviting him to resign his office (with order).

Enc. 1554/95 M.C.
G.O. 245 – 16-2-95
1723 – 14-11-95
1275 M – 94
613 M – 94

C. Nos. 1239, 1397, 1452 & 1808 M.

Wm
Misc

Order.

The Government sees no reason to reconsider its order dated 16th February 1895, No. 245 M., and desires that the action indicated in para. 3 of that order may be taken by the Chairman and the municipal Council within a month from the date of receipt of these proceedings. Failure to do this will ~~necessitate~~ involve the withdrawal of the privilege of electing the chairman and the ~~appointment to that office of an official selected by Government~~ reduction of the proportion of elected councillors from three-fourths to one-half.*

2. The Government views with displeasure the excessive delay which has occurred in the municipal office in dealing with this matter.

V.R. 15/6/95
C.G. 20.VI.
J.S. 26/6/95.

*Please see note dated 2.2.95 by the Hon: Mr. Bliss in G.O. no. 245 M / 13.2.95. In C. nos. 585, 753 and 1452 an immediate reduction of the proportion of elected members is urged. The petitioners in C. no. 585 wishing for the seat for which the Chairman is now standing to be declared non-elective at once.

To The Chairman, M.C. Trichinopoly
and the Collector

13/6 A.M./6.

[G. / 25.]
600—7-5-95.

DEPARTMENT.

27

C. No.

FOR ORDERS.

I dont think we can dispose of this matter in the manner proposed in the draft order. In the first place, I would not use any threats. I see from a note by Mr. Francis at the end of the G.O. of 16.2.95 that the Chairman's term of office does not expire until Nov. 27, 1896, so that he cannot be got rid of until then. To this is appended a blue pencil note by the C.S. to the effect that we can get rid of the Chairman at once by withdrawing the electoral right. Of course we can get rid of the Chairman by removing him under S. 19(3), but it would be an unjustifiable stretching of language to do so. I suppose therefore that the C.S. means that by appointing the Chairman under S. 14 we can ipso facto cause the office of (elected) Chairman to become vacant. But I doubt if S. 14 bears that meaning. However ~~[illegible]~~ this may be, I don't think I wd. advise even such a course. We have taken the view (rightly or wrongly) that the system is as much to blame as the individual, or almost as much; and I would not therefore deal more harshly with the individual than is necessary. If he wont resign, I would not turn him out before the ending of his term of office, but I would in the meantime indicate my dissatisfaction with the conduct of munl. affairs in Trichy by reducing the number of elected members. I would not, however, do so at once, but wd. content myself for the present with saying that the letter now submitted contains nothing which was not already, at least in substance, before Govt. & that Govt. remains of opinion, as was stated, that a necessary reform in the munl. administration is the appt. of a salaried whole-time chairman, & therefore again invites the ~~[illegible]~~ Chairman & Council to comply with the former G.O. (in which, by the way, there is an error – I wrote of Rs250 + "pensionary contribution", but the G.O. says "inclusive" instead of "plus") – Then if the chairman & Council are still ~~recalcitrant~~, I would reduce the number of elected Councillors & withdraw the privilege of election of chairman. ~~[illegible]~~ There are six elected

There is the Chairman's protest against the order calling on him to resign. It has evidently been held over until Mr. Andrew was out of the way. His assertion that he has been "kicked downstairs without one word of explanation" is a downright falsehood. He was given every opportunity of explanation (G.O. No. 1275 dated 7.9.94) and after a careful perusal of his long-winded letter and its accompanying enclosures I cannot see that his present letter makes matters any better. It contains nothing additional. Assertions are not proofs and the Chairman must be judged by the proofs which he adduces and not by the allegations which he makes.

Further discussion with him appears to be mere waste of time. If his word is to be believed there is no proof of its truth & the European Officers of Govt. must be disbelieved. What evidence is available is in favour of the latter and there is no reason to believe that they have been guilty of deliberate falsehood.

It will be observed that in this

letter now sent up an allegation is for the first time made that the Special Apothecary showed the white feather as regards the execution of his medical duties. There is not an iota of evidence in support of this and it seems to be a gratuitous falsehood prompted probably by the Apothecary having complained to the Dist. Med. Officer of the Chairman's interference and indifference to his requests.

Whether Govt. in review of the administration of the Municipality spoke favourably of the work done is foreign to the present question which is whether the Chairman during the recent outbreak of cholera did his duty or not. The Govt. has held that he did not & that the explanation offered on the subject is unsatisfactory

[illegible] 26/6/95

Councillors who go out of office between Sept 27 & Dec 20, so we could soon make the reduction requisite —

The delay in replying is not so ~~[illegible]~~ serious as to deserve reprimand. The G.O. is dated 16.2.95. The Chairman replied (at least his letter is dated) 14/3/95 ~~[illegible]~~ It was despatched 5/4/95 (I suppose he delayed to get it printed) — It was recd. on 6/4/95, returned on 25/4/95, & resubmitted through the Colr. on 6/5/95 — I would however require a reply to the G.O. now to be sent within a month. This will give us time, I take it, to stop the elections which will otherwise take place in Sept.

25/6/95

Circ:

I agree as to the course to be

Chairman Trichy Mun. Council

28

FOR ORDERS.

Am & circ —

adopted, but the C.S. probably referred to Sec 17(1) wh. provides that a Chairman shall be deemed to have vacated office on the cancellation of the authority under wh. he was appointed, & that this authority was given & may be cancelled under Sec 13.

J.G. 26/6

I agree as to the action proposed by the hon. Mr. Bliss.

2 July

[G. / 24.]
600—8-3-95.

29

Land Rev. DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in proceedings :—

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

Again G.O., dated 16th February 1895, No. 245 M.

Current No. 1239 M of 1895, dated 14.III.95 from the Chairman M. C. Trichinopoly

— 1397 M — 22.IV.95 — T.A.M.R.Ry. T.A. Susia Pillai Trichinopoly —

— 1452 M — 24.1.95 — M.R.Ry V.S. Chellappa Chetti and others Trichinopoly

Current No. 1808 M of 1895, dated 4.VI.95 from the Collector of Trichinopoly

ORDER. 10.7.95 No. 1085 M mis

The letter now submitted contains nothing which was not already, at least in substance, before Government and Government remains of opinion that a necessary reform in the Municipal administration is the appointment of a salaried whole-time Chairman, and therefore again invites the Chairman and Council to comply with the terms of G.O. dated 16th February 1895 No 245 M.

2. The salary proposed in para 3 of that G.O. should however have been stated as Rs 250 in addition to, instead of inclusive of, pensionary contribution.

3. The reply to this order should reach Government within a month at latest.

(from orders)

6/7/95

Let out sharp please & keep a look out for the expiry of the month of grace —

4/7/95

3.VII.95

Despd. 16/7/95

The Chairman M. C. Trichinopoly

Chairman, Municipal Council, Trichinopoly

38

Note for H.M.

If M. R. Ry Rangaswámi Aiyar succeeds in getting himself reelected again before the expiry of his term of office of councillor, as the petitioner in C no 585 says he is attempting to do, he will remain in office as Chairman in the ordinary course till 1898, and will not vacate in November 1896 as stated at the commencement of H.M.'s note

3.VII.

4/7/95

What I referred to in the pencil note mentioned by Hon in his note was as noted by the Hon Mr Grose Sections 13 (iii) and 17 (1) Act IV of 1884. If Govt. withdraws as it can the right of electing the Chairman the Chairman would on the issue of the notification to this effect thereupon vacate his Office

4/7/95

I see. I did not understand the point before

Appointment of a ~~an~~ paid official Chairman

Trichinopoly Municipality.

M 1085

(from orders with note for H.M.)

Office

Issue at once and note H.M.'s remark within.

8.VIII.

6/7

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[25]
000—23-5-95.

31

Local and Municipal Department.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT, MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read again G.O. dated 16th February 1895, No. 245 M READ also the following papers—

~~From the Chairman, Municipal Council, Trichinopoly, dated 14th March 1895 No. 12, requesting Government to reconsider its order No. 245 M. dated 16th February 1895 inviting the present Chairman to resign his office.~~

~~Telegram from T. A. Soorya Pillai, Municipal Councillor, Trichinopoly, dated 22nd April 1895, praying that orders regarding the resignation of the Chairman, Municipal Council, Trichinopoly may be postponed pending receipt of dissentient minute.~~

~~Petition from V. S. Chellappa Chetti and other Councillors Trichinopoly Municipality, dated 24th January 1895, praying that under the circumstances stated the present Chairman of the Trichinopoly Municipality may be removed and a Government official be appointed in his stead.~~

The [illegible] relates to [illegible] only

From the Collector of Trichinopoly, dated 4th June from his No. 1438/Rev.! submitting with remarks letter Chairman, Municipal Council, Trichinopoly

32

requesting Government to reconsider its order No. 245 M dated 16th February 1895 inviting him to resign his office.

Order, 10th July 1895, No. 1085 M. Mis

The letter now submitted contains nothing which was not already, at least in substance, before Government and His Excellency in Council remains of opinion that a necessary reform in the Municipal administration is the appointment of a salaried whole-time Chairman, and therefore again invites the Chairman and Council to comply with the terms of G.O. dated 16th February 1895 No. 245 M.

2. The salary proposed in para: 3 of that G.O. should however have been stated as Rs. 250 in addition to, instead of inclusive of, pensionary contribution.

3. The reply to this order should reach Government within a month at latest.

(True Extract)

Ag: Assistant Secy.
for Chief Secy

To
The Chairman, Municipal Council, Collector.
Through t[illegible]

Sent

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G.O., No. DATED

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Collector's Office,
TRICHINOPOLY,
189

character, & it is not much to the credit of the Council that it should so warmly support a man like Rengasamy Iyer. On the Political side it will not be very easy to decide on what to do with him. The visit to the Senior Princess at Pudukottai: I do not like well there a Chairman a man who [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] forbidden to go to Pudukottai! I should have thought For all the above reasons

probably have [illegible] to you [illegible] this on the Political side. B.

earnestly hope that Govt will take a severe view of his conduct during the cholera epidemic & remove him, & it wd be an excellent plan if it

1808 Mar 95

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w. reduce the number of elective, & increase the number of nominated seats in the Council. It has done so in Srirangam, & it is really much more important that the same should be done in Trichinopoly.

Although the matter was sent up officially by Mr Elwin, I have thought it well to send this D.O. in explanation from here, as I have seen a good deal of the Municipality.

Yours sincerely
J. Andrew.

1894 Mar 25

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Collector's Office,
TRICHINOPOLY,
1[illegible] 1895

CHIEF SECRETARY
19 JUL 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Dear Mr Price

I wrote to you, D.O. yesterday about the Trichy chairman, but some hours afterwards the 2nd delivery brought the G.O. on the subject. My letter therefore requires no attention; so I am sorry I troubled you with it. I am very glad of the order Govt. has passed.

Yours Sincerely
J. Andrew.

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Collector's Office,
TRICHINOPOLY.

17 July 1895

CHIEF SECRETARY
18 JUL 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Dear Mr Price

Since returning from leave last week I have read Elwin's letter 8th [illegible] June forwarding & got the Trichy Municipal Chairman's letter asking for a reconsideration of his intimating his resign. As he (Elwin) refers to me in the last para, I think I ought to let you know that I quite agree with him that a paid Chairman (non official) would be a vast improvement. I have not of course seen the Chairman's letter as he purposely delayed sending it until after I went

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on leave as he knew I would not
support him. I told him so one
day when he came & asked me.

I think it will be most
unfortunate if he cannot be got
rid of now. There may be a difficulty
in doing so under the Act. One may
be quite satisfied in one's own mind
(as I am) as to his unfitness for the
post, & as to the worthlessness of the
Council (for the most part his own
creatures), but it is by no means
easy to urge an example that is
tangible and capable of being
put in writing when it is mainly
a matter of negligence & inefficiency,
and not of definite specific charges.
I fear therefore that if he is not
got rid of on the indictment that
that he proved to be inefficient
during that Cholera epidemic he
will never be got rid of, for he is a clever
man. He may remain Chairman
for an indefinite period by getting
himself elected for another ward
before the expiration of his present
tenure of office as Councillor, & then
resigning his present ward seat, so
getting a fresh lease for 3 years. This
he has done before & intends to do
again.

Even if he were really trying to
discharge his duties properly,
Trichinopoly (with its Cantonment)
is a town that requires as Chairman
a man who has no other duties to
look after. A Collector cannot

1508 M of 25

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make much headway against
an obstinate Council & Chairman,
& much of my time, as well as that
of the D.O., has been needlessly
taken up with looking after drains,
encroachments &c wh. wd have been
unnecessary if the Chairman
looked after his subordinates
properly.

I may as well say here that
the Raja – who has just returned
from the Pulneys – is going to speak
to me about the scandal caused
by the Senior Princes & their
Chairman, to see if anything can
be done. It is a delicate matter,
mainly owing to the reckless

On Her Majesty's Service only.

To

D.O. from Mr Andrew,
d. 17 July 95

Secretary to Government,
Department.

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