[L. & M.
2,000—12-9]

# Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 2194 M

DATED 17-12-98.

INDEXED

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Secretary. Requesting with remarks the Chairman, Municipal Council Vellore to give immediate effect to the orders of Govt. regarding the appointment of a ——— to the council & report the facts to Government.

## BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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## FURTHER PAPERS.

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# Local & Munl. (1898) Department

**CURRENT No.** 3725 M

Misc

**Order** No. 2194 Misc 17-12-98

The Government agrees with the Sub-Collector and the Collector in considering that there are not sufficient grounds for postponing the appointment of the Secretary. The Chairman is accordingly requested to give immediate effect to the orders in G.O. No. 1440 M, dated 16th August 1898, and report the fact to Government.

2. Under Sec. 40 (1) of the Madras District Municipalities Act, as amended, the municipal Council is bound to pay the required Contribution towards the salary of the Secretary.

V.R.
14/12/98

15-12-98

To

The Chairman, Mc Vellore
thro' the Collr. of N Arcot
o.c.p. 20/12/98

**From** The Ag. Collector of North Arcot

Disposal Eng. No. 2080 of 1898.

**Dated** 5th December 1898

**Received** 6-12-98

**Registered** 7-12-98

**Enclosures** 7 3.

**Spare copies**

## SUBJECT.

Forwarding, with remarks, the Vellore Municipal Chairman's letter with the Sub-Collector's report thereon, & a petition from certain ~~municipal~~ Councillors of the Municipality, regarding the entertainment of the Municipal Secretary recently sanctioned by Govt.

14/12.

## BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|---|---|---|---|
| f | 1908 | L | 14-11-98 |
| 8 | 1440 | Sch | 16-8-98/12 |

## FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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P/12·9·98

Reference on Current No. 1605 [illegible]

To Dated 12·9·98

## J. K. BATTEN ESQUIRE,

### COLLECTOR OF NORTH ARCOT.

Sir,

We the undersigned Municipal Councillors of Vellore beg to bring to your kind notice that the Chairman convened a Special Meeting of the Municipal Council of Vellore yesterday and a resolution was passed by a majority postponing the appointment of the Municipal Secretary to the next official year on the ground that the pensionary contribution payable to that officer under Section 40 (1) of the Amended District Municipalities Act was not budgetted for.

2. The gentlemen who constituted the aforesaid majority were those Councillors who had voted against the Secretary-elect and 5 of them (inclusive of the present Chairman) had addressed a joint petition to Government protesting against the appointment of the said Secretary. In this connection, it has also to be stated that the Government have ordered that the Chairman shall cease to draw his carriage allowance Rs. 50 from the date of entertainment of the Secretary.

3. Finding that their protestations did not prevail, they have now adopted this unjustifiable procedure of vetoing the orders of Government which should have been implicitly obeyed for various reasons which we detail below :—

(a) The Council having *unanimously* resolved to appoint a Secretary in pursuance of the peremptory provisions of the Amended District Municipalities Act, it is not competent for the same body, after such appointment has been sanctioned by Government, to recede from that position and thereby veto their own action and that of Government.

(b) The financial condition of the Municipal Council at the time that the aforesaid resolution was passed cannot be characterised more affluential than it is now as will be evidenced by the accompanying statement. Nor are there any grounds to apprehend that the receipts of this year will fall short of the estimate. On the otherhand the appointment of a Secretary will not only ensure speedy and timely collections of both arrears and current taxes but also tend to improve the revenue in various directions.

(c) The said appointment having been provided for in the current year's budget, there could be no difficulty in finding funds therefor. Further the ostensible ground of objection for deferring the appointment of this officer does not prima-facie appear bonafide in as much as the pensionary contribution payable to Government could be easily met from the savings that have already accrued owing to the appointment having remained vacant for six months in the official year.

(d) The outbreak of cholera in the town coupled with the imminent danger that exists for the importation of plague from Bangalore as is indicated by a few cases having already occurred in the District, demand the immediate entertainment of a Secretary who by devoting his whole time and energy to the cause of Municipal Administration could remedy the present insanitary condition of the town and thereby avert or minimise the aforesaid danger (*Vide* also para 9 of Sub-Collector's endorsement No. 1,415 Revenue on the Administration Report of this Municipality for the official year 1897-98.)

(e) On an occasion like this, a Chairman who has got his own avocations to attend to-to wit that of a Pleader-cannot be expected to pay the required degree of attention to the needs and requirements of the town.

(*f*) In our humble opinion the Municipal Council cannot ple
pecuniary impecuniosity this year as by the exercise of a little tact and circun
pection they could easily adjust their receipts and expenditure in a way as not
land in deficit balance. We might here point out a lump provision of Rs 4,
under Grant I New Works–Buildings which, we opine, need not and could not
utilized during the current official year, in as much as, of the three works on wh
it is proposed to spend that amount, the construction of certain additional ma
stalls cannot be undertaken until the plans and estimates have been approved by
petent authority. (*Vide* para 4 (2) of G. O. No. 333 M. dated 4th February 1
the construction of 7 new latrines will be of no practical utility in the absen
any provision for extra scavengers as rightly remarked by the Sub-Collector
para 6 of Sub-Collector's Current No. 2,460 English printed with the said G
and the widening of Jayarama Chetty Street at a cost of about Rs. 1,500
present state of the season and in spite of the various demands on the Mu
exchequer will be tantamount to frittering away of Municipal funds.

4. For the foregoing reasons we humbly request that you will b
enough to direct the Municipal Council to give immediate effect to the o
Government referred to above.

We beg to remain,
Sir,
Your most obedient ser

Vellore
11th September 1898

K. Eswarappa

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| Detailed heads | Estimate for 98-99 | Actually sold in 98-99 | Actuals of 97-98 | Increase or Decrease | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Rs | Rs | Rs | Rs | |
| Tolls | 8000 | 6940 | 7390 | – 1060 | |
| Market | 8500 | 8700 | 8640 | + 200 | |
| Firewood Depot | 900 | 733 | 905 | – 167 | |
| Grass market | 100 | 171 | 102 | + 71 | |
| Sheep Slaughter house | 2500 | 2125 | 2400 | – 375 | |
| Large cattle Slaughter house | 100 | 65 | 62 | – 35 | |
| Cart Stand | 700 | 401 | 600 | – 299 | |
| Rent on lands | 900 | 772 | 816 | – 128 | |
| Town sweepings | 1200 | 1085 | 1090 | – 115 | |
| Savings under supply of Conservancy carts | | 23 carts at Rs 8-5-<br>16 carts at Rs 8-12- | 7-11- per cart | + 625 | a lump sum of 1000 Rs was provided in [illegible] of last year. |
| Savings under supply of night soil carts (8 night soil & 2 urinal) | | 13 Rs per pair | 14-10- per pair | + 195 | |
| Lighting (670 lamps) | 4140 | 7 As per lamp | 8 As 1 pie per lamp | + 544 | |
| Lungerkana | 3600 | | | + 720 | |
| Tax on arts | 7700 | | | | There can possibly be no decrease under this head in the current year. The collections for the current year and those relating to the arrears of past years if properly supervised cannot fall short of Rs 7700. There can therefore be no deficit under this head. |
| Tax on Buildings | 12050 | | | | Do Do |
| Tax on lands | 1410 | | | | Do Do |
| Tax on Vehicles | 820 | | | | There will be no decrease under this head |
| Tax on Animals | 1210 | | | | Do Do |
| Tax on carts | 1610 | | | | Do Do |
| License fees | 850 | | | | This is a fluctuating item and admits of no accurate calculation regarding increase or decrease. |
| Fishing rents | 500 | 450 | | – 50 | |
| Savings under Secretary's pay upto 30 Sept 98 | | | | + 600 | |
| | | | | + 2955<br>– 2229<br>+ 726 | |

It is represented by the Chairman in the accounts circulated by him that there will be a deficit balance of Rs 3649-9-9 whereas there will be a [illegible] Rs 726 not to speak of the [illegible] balance of Rs 4360 with which the current year is expected to close vide the review of Government in the budget of the Vellore Municipality embodied in order No 333 M dated 4 Feby

Vellore
11 September 1898

Enclosure No 1. to Dis. No 2080
858

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5725/Mis/98

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MEETING No. 24

## Extract from Proceedings at a GENERAL/SPECIAL Meeting of the Municipal Council for the Town of Vellore,

dated 10 September 1898.

PRESENT.

M. R. Ry A. C. Seshagiri Row avergal Chairman
Reverend D. W. Kidd B. A.
Reverend H. J. Scudder M. A.
M. R. Ry V. Nadamuni Mudaliar avergal
" A. Chelvaperumal Chettiar avergal
" T. Punniakoti Mudaliar avergal
" V. Varadaraja Mudaliar avergal
" V. Gopalakrishna Mudaliar avergal
" V. Govinda Reddiar avergal
" V. Subroya Chettiar avergal
" V. Eswarappa Mudaliar avergal
" T. Narayanasami Reddiar avergal
" C. Siva Row avergal
" A. Manicka Chettiar avergal
Zakir Haji Azizullah Saheb
Subadar-Major Hussain Khan Saheb.

1. Read Proceedings of the Madras Government No 1440 M mis dated 16th August 1898 Sanctioning the proposals of the Municipal Council to appoint P. Samidoss Mudaliar as its Secretary and to delegate to him the Chairman's powers Specified in its resolution No 1 dated 23d April 1898.

Read also letter dated 19th August 1898 from M. R. Ry T. Punniakoti Mudaliar avergal requesting that Government be respectfully Solicited to postpone the appointment of a Secretary owing to the present Critical Condition of Municipal finances, until the expiry of the term of office of the present Chairman or until the financial equilibrium of the Municipality has been restored.

Read also Statement prepared by the Chairman at the request, by letter, of M. R. Ry T. Punniakoti Mudaliar avergal

Shewing

Shewing that the anticipated receipts in the budget-estimates for 1898-99 will fall Short by Rs 8929.1, & that the expenditure will probably rise by Rs 720, judged from the actuals of 1897-98, and those of 1898-99 as far as leases are Concerned.

Proposed by Reverend D. W. Kidd B.A. and Seconded by Zakir Haje Azizullah Sahib that the matter be referred back to Government for further information and instruction.

The Council do not understand whether Mr Samidoss Mudaliar's transfer means that his Services will be lent. If this be the case the Council will be liable for the pensionary Contribution in addition to the Secretary's pay. To which the Council objects-

Carried by a majority

Dissenting members - M.R.Ry. Nadamuni Mudaliar avergal
" Govinda Reddiar avergal
" V. Iswarappa Mudaliar avergal
" Narayanasami Reddiar avergal
Subadar-major Hussain Khan Sahib
Reverend H. J. Scudder M.D.

Proposed by M.R.Ry Punnakoti Mudaliar avergal and Seconded by M.R.Ry Subroya Chettiar avergal that the Government be requested to postpone the appointment of Secretary till the finances of the municipality are in a Satisfactory Condition

Amendment of the above proposition

Proposed by Reverend D. W. Kidd B.A. and Seconded by M.R.Ry Gopalakrishna Mudaliar avergal that if Government Considers the Council is bound to pay the pensionary Contribution, the Government may be requested to allow the appointment of Secretary to lie over till the next financial year when this item may be entered in the budget.

The amendment having been put to vote, it is carried by majority

The dissenting members are the same as in the first prop

(Signed) A. C. Se[illegible]
Chairman

(True Extract)

A W [illegible]
Chairman

No. 875

Vellore Municipal Office,
Dated 12th September 1898.

From

M. R. Ry. A. C. Seshaghiri Row Avergal,
Chairman, Municipal Council,
Vellore.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Local and Municipal Departments,
Fort St. George.
(Through the Divisional Officer)

Sir,

I have the honor to bring to the notice of Government the following facts in connection with the appointment of Secretary to this Municipality.

2 On the 19th August 1898 I received a letter from Municipal Councillor M. R. Ry. I. Puniakoti Modaliar and requesting the Government be moved through the Council to postpone the appointment of Secretary to this Municipality on the ground that the receipts of this Municipality had greatly fallen off and that the Expenditure Exceeded the receipts during the past and current years, thereby materially altering the state of affairs that prevailed when

it was resolved to appoint a Secretary, as the Council at the time was not aware of the actual state of its finances.

3 He further pointed out that there has been a deficit balance for the past three years, that expenditure became absolutely necessary in connection with the water supply of this town, as the people were suffering great hardships from the scarcity of water, as also in connection with plague and cholera charges, which items of expenditure will probably be in excess of the budget allotments under these heads; whereas there seemed no probability in the receipts for this year rising, and considering the scarcity at present prevailing, it will be hard on the people to meet the deficit by increased taxation; and he requested the postponement of the appointment of Secretary for reasons above stated until such time that the financial equilibrium had been restored and [illegible] the Council was in a position to meet the salary of the Secretary without any inconvenience.

4 About a week (26 August 98) after the receipt of this letter the Proceedings of the Madras Government No. 1440 Mis. dated 19th August 1898 were received by me.

5 In accordance with the custom prevailing in this Municipality, I ordered the Proceedings above referred to, to be placed before the Council for consideration and disposal, as also the letter from M R Ry J. Puniakoti Modaliar avl. and I enclose a copy of the Council's resolution thereon.

6 I must certainly state that had the Council had the true state of its finances placed before it when the question of the appointment of Secretary had been discussed, it would undoubtedly have requested the Government to postpone the matter until more favorable times

7 Scrutinizing the budget Estimates for 1898-99 in accordance with

existing circumstances I find that there will be a falling off in the receipts of about Rs 8929-9-9 and that the budget expenditure will be materially affected by increased expenditure under water supply, Cholera, plague &c.

8 With the very limited powers given to the Secretary it is not to be expected that he could materially alter the state of affairs because it will take him some time to grasp this situation.

9 Under these circumstances I have no doubt that the Government will be pleased to grant the prayer of the Council by sanctioning the postponement of the appointment of Secretary until a more favorable opportunity because after the close of the current financial year we shall be in a better position to judge the actual state of affairs than at present.

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

## BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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## FURTHER PAPERS.

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Curr 2917/98

# Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

**CURRENT No.**

SUB-COLLECTOR'S OFFICE
17
NORTH ARCOT.

Enclosure no 2 to Dis Reg 2080/98

**From** Chairman
Municipal Council
Vellore

**Order.**

**No.** 875 of 98

**Dated**

Enclose

**Received**

**Registered**

**Enclosures** 1

**Spare copies**

**SUBJECT.**

Requesting the postponement of the appointment of Secretary for reasons given

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Statement showing probable falling off in the receipts and rise in charges for the year 1898.99.

| Budget heads | Estimated Demand 1898 99 | | | Probable demand based on figures (actuals) 1897.98 | | | Difference | | | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tax on arts &c. | 7700 | „ | „ | 6600 | „ | „ | _1100 | „ | „ | |
| Tax on buildings | 12050 | „ | „ | 11000 | „ | „ | _1050 | „ | „ | |
| Tax on lands | 1410 | „ | „ | 1160 | „ | „ | _250 | „ | „ | |
| Tax on Vehicles | 820 | „ | „ | 600 | „ | „ | _220 | „ | „ | |
| Tax on animals | 1210 | „ | „ | 1050 | „ | „ | _160 | „ | „ | |
| Tax on carts | 1610 | „ | „ | 1400 | „ | „ | _210 | „ | „ | |
| Tolls | 8000 | „ | „ | 6940 | „ | „ | _1060 | „ | „ | |
| Rent of lands | 900 | „ | „ | 800 | „ | „ | _100 | „ | „ | |
| Conservancy sweepings &c | 1200 | „ | „ | 1085 | „ | „ | _115 | „ | „ | |
| Income from Markets | 9500 | „ | „ | 9604 | „ | „ | +104 | „ | „ | |
| Slaughter-Houses | 2600 | „ | „ | 2190 | „ | „ | _410 | „ | „ | |
| License fees | 850 | „ | „ | 550 | „ | „ | _300 | „ | „ | |
| Cart stand | 700 | „ | „ | 400 | „ | „ | _300 | „ | „ | |
| Fisherry rent | 50 | „ | „ | „ | „ | „ | _50 | „ | „ | |
| Balance | 3450 | „ | „ | _258 | 9 | 9 | _3708 | 9 | 9 | |
| | | | | | | | _9033 | 9 | 9 | |
| | | | | | | | +104 | „ | „ | |
| | | | | | | | 8929 | 9 | 9 | |

Vellore
21-9-98

Ag Sub Collector

## Receipts

| — | Actuals 1893.94 | | | Actuals 1894.95 | | | Actuals 1895.96 | | | Actuals 1896.97 | | | Actuals 1897.98 | | | Estimate 1898.99 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Balance brought forward | 22402 | „ | „ | 19898 | „ | „ | 14331 | „ | „ | —180 | „ | „ | —497 | „ | „ | 3450 | „ | „ |
| Tax on arts | 5938 | „ | „ | 7238 | „ | „ | 7049 | „ | „ | 7156 | „ | „ | 6056 | „ | „ | 7700 | „ | „ |
| Buildings & Lands | 8101 | „ | „ | 8492 | „ | „ | 10063 | „ | „ | 9165 | „ | „ | 8733 | „ | „ | 13460 | „ | „ |
| Vehicles & Animals | 1864 | „ | „ | 1922 | „ | „ | 1706 | „ | „ | 1722 | „ | „ | 1617 | „ | „ | 2030 | „ | „ |
| Carts | 2017 | „ | „ | 2081 | „ | „ | 1632 | „ | „ | 1349 | „ | „ | 1390 | „ | „ | 1610 | „ | „ |
| Tolls | 8368 | „ | „ | 7790 | „ | „ | 8105 | „ | „ | 8404 | „ | „ | 7390 | „ | „ | 8000 | „ | „ |
| Realizations under special Acts | „ | „ | „ | 105 | „ | „ | 105 | „ | „ | 125 | „ | „ | 105 | „ | „ | 50 | „ | „ |
| Rent of lands, buildings &c &c | 1064 | „ | „ | 1211 | „ | „ | 1392 | „ | „ | 1238 | „ | „ | 1713 | „ | „ | 1850 | „ | „ |
| Conservancy Receipts | „ | „ | „ | — | „ | „ | 1050 | „ | „ | 1280 | „ | „ | 1090 | „ | „ | 1200 | „ | „ |
| Fees & Revenue from Edcl: Instns | 753 | „ | „ | 758 | „ | „ | 856 | „ | „ | 688 | „ | „ | 598 | „ | „ | 670 | „ | „ |
| Fees & Revenue from Medl: Instns | 74 | „ | „ | 91 | „ | „ | 134 | „ | „ | 151 | „ | „ | 152 | „ | „ | 160 | „ | „ |
| Income from Markets & Slaug: Hous | 10355 | „ | „ | 10662 | „ | „ | 11543 | „ | „ | 12012 | „ | „ | 12109 | „ | „ | 12100 | „ | „ |
| License fees | 653 | „ | „ | 594 | „ | „ | 854 | „ | „ | 699 | „ | „ | 521 | „ | „ | 850 | „ | „ |
| Other fees | 856 | „ | „ | 657 | „ | „ | 776 | „ | „ | 708 | „ | „ | 670 | „ | „ | 810 | „ | „ |
| Fines under municipal & other acts | 460 | „ | „ | 321 | „ | „ | 710 | „ | „ | 771 | „ | „ | 508 | „ | „ | 700 | „ | „ |
| Interest on Investments &c | 211 | „ | „ | 238 | „ | „ | 185 | „ | „ | 185 | „ | „ | 185 | „ | „ | 190 | „ | „ |
| Grants & Contributions from Govt | 8822 | „ | „ | 9406 | „ | „ | 6491 | „ | „ | 6740 | „ | „ | 6675 | „ | „ | 6690 | „ | „ |
| Do Do from Local Boards | 1300 | „ | „ | 1300 | „ | „ | 1300 | „ | „ | 1300 | „ | „ | 1300 | „ | „ | 1300 | „ | „ |
| Recoveries for Services to Private Individuals | 755 | „ | „ | 921 | „ | „ | 1130 | „ | „ | 1213 | „ | „ | 1328 | „ | „ | 2000 | „ | „ |
| Miscellaneous | 75 | „ | „ | 31 | „ | „ | 393 | „ | „ | 960 | „ | „ | 6 | „ | „ | 140 | „ | „ |
| Advances Recovered | 611 | „ | „ | 73 | „ | „ | 574 | „ | „ | 53 | „ | „ | 2 | „ | „ | 50 | „ | „ |
| Total | 74,679 | „ | „ | 73,789 | „ | „ | 70,319 | „ | „ | 55,739 | „ | „ | 51,651 | „ | „ | 65,010 | „ | |

Vellore
21-7-98

Actg:
Ag Sub Collector

Sub Collector & Joint Magistrate's Office,
Camp, Vellore
No. 21st September 1898.
Dis No: 2358/98.

From
A. C. Dutt Esquire
of Sub Collector and Joint Magistrate of
North Arcot

To
The Collector of
North Arcot

Sir,

In forwarding herewith letter No: 875 of 12.9.98 from the Chairman of the Municipal Council together with its enclosures, I have the honor to submit the following report.

2. The Council has asked Government to let the question of appointing a Secretary lie over if it considers it necessary that the Council should pay the pensionary contribution of the Secretary. The pensionary contribution would amount, I believe, to 1/7 of the Secretary's Salary. The Council would have to pay this amount for 6 months

that I consider it unnecessary to discuss the propriety of charging the Municipal Council with it. The accounts branch of the Collector's office will easily be able to show whether the municipality ought or ought not to pay it. If it is decided that the municipality is liable to pay it, I would respectfully beg to suggest that the appointment of a Secretary be not postponed on such a flimsy ground as its non inclusion in the budget. In his covering letter, however, the Chairman states that the receipts will fall short of the Budget Estimate by nearly 9,000 and that the finances of the municipality will not permit of the appointment of a Secretary.

Under sec. 40(1). the Munl Council shd pay the pensionary Contns within Cas

3. The statement enclosed herein will show at a glance the receipts of the municipality under the various heads for the last 5 years.

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any signs of growth. The receipts belong to thre distinct classes. The first class consis of receipts over which the municipality has no control. They are (i) Balance brought forward (ii) Contributions from Government and (iii) Contributions from Local Boards. The second class consists of receipts from sources not directly under the management of the municipality. It comprises (i) Tolls (ii) Rent of lands &c (iii) Conservancy receipts and (iv) Income from mark The third class consists of receipts from sou directly under the management of the municipality. It comprises all the other heads of receipts. A comparison of receipts from the second and third sources will show how ~~badly~~ badly the municipality has been managing its affairs. The receipts from the Second Source have for the last five years been as follows: — 19,782, 19,663 22,090, 22,934, 22,302. The receipts from the third source have on the other hand gone down as follows — 22,368, 23,522, 26,107, 24,945 & 21,871. Everything that is directly under the management of the municipality appears at a disadvantage against what is not so managed. I understand from the manager of the municipality that no attempt whatsoever has been made even in this year to make new assessments under taxes on ts, under taxes on buildings, under taxes n vehicles, under taxes on animals & under taxes on Carts. The work of the municipality is also been unfavorably commented on

A Statement

prepared by the Municipal Office is herein enclosed showing that the receipts will probably fall short of the Budget estimate by Rs: 8929. That the receipts will really fall ~~short~~ considerably short of the estimate, I fully believe. I wish, however, respectfully to point out that the Budget anticipates a final balance of Rs: 4360. The rest of the deficit can easily be met by postponing a few of the new works proposed to be constructed. From the provision itself that has been made for the salary of the Secretary, a substantial saving will be made, for the Secretary will be appointed for 6 instead of 12 months. I have not the slightest doubt that the Municipality could appoint a Secretary and still make both ends meet.

4 It would, I respectfully submit,

be a very bad economy on the part of such a badly managed municipality to postpone the appointment of a Secretary. If the appointment is postponed now there is no reason to suppose that the municipality will frame a more judicious Budget or will nurse its revenues any better next year so as to be able to afford to pay for a Secretary. The municipality is ~~a~~ not at all unlikely to change its mind again next year in the same unmasculine manner and ask for a further postponement of the appointment.

5. In conclusion, I beg to state that cheap expedients are most unsuitable at the present season. I hope that Plague will be kept out of Vellore, but it would be in the least degree dangerous not to provide

the municipal Council has any idea of the work that will devolve on its Establishment if Plague breaks out in Vellore or of the importance of taking precautions against its introduction.

6. I therefore beg to suggest that Government be asked not to sanction the postponement of the appointment of a Secretary.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant
Curtis
Ag. Sub Collector.

By

From
The Sub Collector and
Joint Magistrate of
North Arcot

To
The Collector
North Arcot

22 SEP 1898

Dis: No. 2358 / Rev 98

Dated 21 } September 1898
Despatched 21 }

Enclosures. 2, with original file

Subject.

Forwarding with remarks the report of the Municipal Chairman Vellore applying to Government for the post-ponement of the Appointment of Secretary.

(Enclosures 2 & 3 to D.S. 2080 of 98)

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DESPATCHED
5 DEC 1898

North Arcot, Collector's Office,
Chittoor 5th December 1898
Dis Sug No. 2080 of 1898

From
J. K. Batten Esquire,
Ag Collector and District Magistrate,
North Arcot,

To
The Secretary to Government,
Local and Municipal Dept,
Madras.

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPT.
CURRENT No. 3725 M

Sir,

At the beginning of September last it was brought to my notice that the Vellore municipality had failed to give effect to the appointment of P. Swamidoss Mudaliyar as its Secretary, sanctioned in G.O. No. 1440. M. Mis, dated 16th August 1898. As plague and cholera were threatening Vellore and the appointment of a Secretary at an early date was desirable I called on the Municipal chairman to report why effect had not been given to the G.O. On the 4th September he replied that it was the custom to place all Government orders befor the Council for informat information.

and disposal, and that as a protest had been received against the appointment he was placing both the Government order and the protest before a special meeting on the 10th September.

2. I herewith forward the Chairman's letter, No 875, dated 12th September, forwarding a copy of a resolution, carried by a small majority, that Government should be requested to postpone the appointment of a Secretary, apparently on the ground that no provision had been made in the current year's Budget for the Secretary's pensionary contribution. I also enclose the Sub-Collector's letter, Dis. No 2358, dated 21st September 1898, with its enclosures, in which the Sub Collector comments on the Council's resolution. I entirely agree with the Sub. Collector. The ground given for the postponement f the appointment is especially hildish, as there was a large

of 10 against 6

saving under the head of salary to the Secretary (owing to the appointment not taking effect from the beginning of the year). Since the date of the resolution there have been several imported cases of plague in Vellore, and I am bound to say, that myself, and, I think I may add, the District Medical and Sanitary Officer also, would have found it easier to deal with the cases had there been a Secretary to whom to give directions and who would be personally responsible.

3. I enclose a petition I received on the subject. I have received other similar petitions. The fact of the matter appears to be that the appointment has become a party question, when the Council unanimously resolved to have a Secretary, each party hoped to get

get in its own candidate. Between the date of the election of the Secretary and the date of the Government sanction a new chairman came into office and the majority now lies with a different party. I am afraid that the present state of things is an inevitable result of the Secretary's appointment being elective. The Secretary elect was elected, I think, more with reference to his local influence as a former Chairman than with strict reference to the merits of the candidates.

4. I understand, though I have not yet received the Budget proposals for next year, that the Municipality at its Budget meeting resolved to omit provision for a Secretary.

5. I regret the delay in the was due to press of Plague work.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant

J. W. Salter
Ag Collector.

B.G. H.R.

information

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ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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