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[Despatch Abstract.]

Adm: Report. Reviewing the

of the Tuticorin annual consil for 1888-89

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Government {1899} of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Read.

Regd. } 1899.

Enclosures

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G.O., No. 1100 M., 4th August 1899.

AUGUST.

Administration Report.

Reviewing the — of the Tuticorin Municipal Council for 1898–99.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper :—

From G. ZELLWEGER, Esq., Chairman, Municipal Council, Tuticorin, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated 9th June 1899, No. 174.

I have the honour to submit the administration report on the working of this municipality for the financial year 1898–99 with the usual statements noted below :—

(1) Statement of receipts and charges.
(2) Statement on the progress of education of males.
(3) Statement on the progress of education of females.
(4) Concise medical report.
(5) Copy of the resolution of the Council.

I.—Constitution of the Council.

2. The office of Chairman was held by the undersigned during the year under report.

There were two elective seats vacant during the year in the second and third wards which were duly filled up uncontested. The Council had its full compliment of sixteen members on the 31st March 1899. Seventeen meetings were held by the Council during the year against 22 in the previous year with an average attendance, at each meeting, of 0·53 official and 8·29 non-official, against 0·86 official and 8·86 non-official in the previous year. No meeting was adjourned for want of a quorum.

II.—Receipts.

3. The total receipts of the year, including the opening balance of Rs. 4,030, were Rs. 45,561 and the expenditure during the year was Rs. 40,357, leaving a balance of Rs. 5,004 at the end of the year. Of the total receipts of Rs. 41,332, Rs. 34,377 were derived from rates and taxes and the remaining sum of Rs. 6,955 from other sources. The year compares favourably with the last year, there having been Rs. 2,546 more than the receipts of the last year, which is mainly ascribed to the increased realization under rates and taxes.

A.—Rates from Taxation.

4. *Tax on Arts, &c.*—This tax was, as usual, revised during the year with careful scrutiny and levied on all the nine classes of the schedule. The net demand was Rs. 6,369 after reduction of Rs. 269 made by the Council on appeal. Rs. 6,010 were collected with a balance of Rs. 188 left at the end of the year. Rs. 171 were written off as irrecoverable. The number of appeals received against the assessment was 145 for Rs. 801, of which Rs. 269 were remitted by the Council in 97 cases and Rs. 327 confirmed in 46 cases; two appeals involving Rs. 16–8–0 are pending disposal.

There is a decrease of Rs. 280 in the net demand of the year under report as compared with that of the last year which is mainly due to the South Indian Railway Company not having been assessed during the year under G.O., Mis. No. 1201 M., dated 6th July 1898. The balance left was only Rs. 188 which is comparatively very little and Rs. 52 of this sum have been since collected.

5. Of the arrear demand of Rs. 1,065, Rs. 611 were collected and Rs. 280 written off with a balance of Rs. 175 left. The writes-off include Rs. 100 imposed upon the South Indian Railway Company.

6. *Tax on Buildings.*—This tax was revised last in 1894–95 with a few additions to, and extensions of, the old taxes which had been brought to book. The gross demand under this tax was Rs. 13,218, of which Rs. 9 were remitted on appeal. The net demand was, therefore, Rs. 13,209, of which Rs. 13,152 were collected against Rs. 12,778 in the previous year, leaving a balance of Rs. 25 after striking off the account Rs. 30. Rs. 2 were remitted on account of vacant houses. The appeals entertained against the assessment of this tax were nine in number involving a sum of Rs. 38, of which Rs. 9 were reduced in seven cases and Rs. 3 confirmed in two cases. The number of buildings assessed to this tax was 6,570 excludiug 190 buildings which were exempted from taxation, being mere huts, temples, &c., excepted in section 63 (1 and 5) of the Act.

7. The incidence of house-tax on the net demand has again risen during the year from Rs. 1–5–10 to Rs. 2–0–2, which is the result of the increased number of buildings.

8. Of the arrear demand of Rs. 84, Rs. 73 were collected with Rs. 3 left outstanding at the end of the year and Rs. 8 written off as irrecoverable.

9. *Tax on Lands.*—The net demand of this tax was Rs. 222 after a remission on appeal of Re. 1. Of this, Rs. 215 were collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 3. Rs. 3 were written off as the land has been built upon and building-tax imposed on same.

10. Under arrears of this tax Rs. 9 were collected and Rs. 4 struck off the account as irrecoverable.

11. *Taxes on Vehicles with Springs and Animals.*—The usual maximum rates were in operation here. The gross demands were Rs. 491 and Rs. 930 with remission of Re. 1 granted by the Council against the tax on animals. Rs. 436 and Rs. 812 were collected, respectively, with balances of Rs. 46 and Rs. 97 left outstanding at the close of the year. Rs. 9 and Rs. 20 were written off as irrecoverable. Here also increase is shown to the extent of Rs. 52 and Rs. 55, respectively, over the actuals of the previous year.

12. *Tax on Carts without Springs.*—This tax was levied at Rs. 4 per cart per annum and the net demand was Rs. 1,112 without any appeal. Rs 1,036 were collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 62 at the end of the year. Rs. 14 were written off as irrecoverable.

13. *Cœrcive Process.*—The number of warrants issued during the year was 1,461 for Rs. 2,713 against 1,092 warrants in the last year for Rs. 2,281. The warrants that remained unexecuted at the beginning of the year were 689 for Rs. 1,234. The total number was, therefore, 2,150 involving an aggregate sum of Rs. 3,947. Of this, 1,879 warrants were executed and cancelled to the extent of Rs. 3,341. Rs. 8 were realized on distraint in three cases; but in no case was the property sold.

14. *Tolls.*—The full amount of revenue from the three toll-gates, viz., Rs. 17,825 for which they were farmed out was realized during the year and credited to this head, deducting one-third share paid to the District Board. There is an increase of Rs. 1,325 under this head which was the result of competition at the time of sale of to'

15. *Incidence of Taxation.*—The average incidence per head of the population, according to the last census, was Rs. 1–5–11 with, and As. 14–4 without, tolls against Rs. 1–4–2 and As. 13–1, respectively, in the last year. Thus it will be seen that there has been gradual increase year after year under the several items of taxation.

B.—Miscellaneous Receipts.

16. *Produce of Garden.*—Under this head Rs. 82 were realized by the sale of produce against Rs. 144 in the year before. The cause for the decrease has been already explained in paragraph 3 of my letter, dated 19th January 1899, No. 25, embodied in G.O., No. 360 M., dated 14th March 1899, reviewing budget of this

municipality. It is, however, hoped that the garden may be made to stand by itself as other seedlings have begun to yield. The well in the garden is largely used by people in the town.

17. *Conservancy Receipts.*—Rs. 60 were realized by the sale of the droppings of the municipal bullocks against Rs. 20 in the last year.

With reference to paragraph 3 (3) of G.O., No. 1588 M., dated 9th September 1898, I beg to report that unlike other places there are no paddy fields in the vicinity of the town which could utilize for manuring purposes, the sweepings of the town and the cartage hire of the same to the vicinity of the "Korampallam" tank situated 4 miles off the town is rather prohibitive and not worth paying. There are no offers for sweepings to be deposited in the gardens of the town even at 1 anna per cart-load.

18. *Sale-proceeds and Composition Fee of Medicines, &c.*—Rs. 628 only were realized from this source against Rs. 1,310 in the last year. This is composed of medicines compounded in the hospital and fees from out-patients. The income has again fallen down this year for the reasons stated in the concluding sentence of paragraph 19 of my last year's administration report. Two chemist shops have been opened in the town where prescriptions are dispensed under the supervision of the Colonial Assistant Surgeon of Ceylon who is stationed here on plague duty.

19. *Income from the Slaughter-house.*—The full amount of Rs. 340 for which this had been leased out was realized during the year, and the sum of Rs. 36 was the amount recovered from the civil action taken against the defaulting contractor of 1897-98, referred to in paragraph 30 of the last year's administration report.

20. *Warrant Fees.*—Rs. 178 were realized from this source against Rs. 54 in the last year. The increase is due to the larger number of warrants executed during the year.

21. *License Fees.*—Rs. 628 were recovered from this item against Rs. 449 in the last year. The increase was due to the close supervision and booking of the materials lodged in the streets, from which alone Rs. 212 were levied.

22. *Fines under Municipal and other Acts.*—The sum of Rs. 1,354 levied during the year by the second-class Magistrate was in excess of the last year's realization by Rs. 634. This is the result of deterrent fines imposed in cases which also have increased in number.

23. *Grants and Contributions from Government on account of Education.*—As usual, no student was sent up for training and hence no receipts against normal stipends. The only income of Rs. 10 was the grant earned by the pupils of salary-result Panchama and Muhammadan schools under the management of the municipality.

24. The Local Fund contribution of Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 75 were, as usual, received from the Tuticorin Taluk Board on account of one-fourth the net cost of the dispensary and maintenance of the municipal chattram at Mélúr. A sum of Rs. 1,020 is yet due from the Taluk Board and is shown in note to statement II.

25. *Miscellaneous—Private Scavenging Fees.*—Rs. 1,290 have been realized from this item against Rs. 1,169 in the last year. It is admitted that there is still much scope for extension of the system for which no pains are being spared, but which can only be gradually accomplished. As observed by Government in paragraph 3 (4) of Government Order reviewing the last year's administration report, this service is not intended to be a source of profit to the Council. The expenditure incurred for the carts and bullocks maintained for the service is mixed up with Grant 3 (5) (*a*) (ii), and not proportionately debited to (5) (*b*) (ii).

The number of houses served by private scavenging agency was, on the 31st March 1899, 1,257 against 1,108 in the last year. The system of collecting fees in advance is being enforced as far as possible and will receive renewed attention.

26. *Refunds of Expenditure of previous years.*—Rs. 803 shown here was the amount recovered from Government as refund of pay disbursed to the Military Assistant Surgeon referred to in paragraph 37 of the administration report of 1896-97.

27. *Other items.*—The sum of Rs. 111-9-0 herein referred to consisted of Rs. 105, being interest which accrued from the fixed deposit amount invested in the Bank and Rs. 6-9-0, being sale-proceeds of Act books.

Advances.—The sum of Rs. 136 was the amount made up of Rs. 90 refunded by the civil apothecary to whom it was advanced, and Rs. 46 adjusted on account of repair of drain within the premises of the South Indian Railway.

III.—Expenditure.

28. The total expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 40,357 against Rs. 40,852 in the previous year, with a small decrease of Rs. 495 which will be explained below where necessary.

29. *Grant 1, Communications.*—No new works were undertaken during the year as the provision made in the budget has been transferred to plague expenditure under G.O., Mis. No. 2164 M., dated 15th December 1898.

30. Under *Repairs*, Rs. 5,851 were spent as shown in Part II, statement II-A. This includes Rs. 202, being compensation paid to the owner of a bit of land which was acquired for widening a portion of a street. Rs. 566 spent for watering some of the roads which were cut up by heavy traffic and Rs. 129 expended towards the construction of tunnels at some parts of certain streets. All the roads were kept in good order by constant attention to their upkeep and the side roads were also carefully looked after.

31. *Buildings.*—As already reported in paragraph 33 of the last year's administration report, two open latrines on dry earth system have been constructed within the railway station compound on Rs. 200 and eighteen moveable metal dust-bins have been purchased for Rs. 192. The hospital assistant's house has been provided with a compound wall at a cost of Rs. 170. A portion of new cholera ward has been constructed at a cost of Rs. 175. The provision of Rs. 600 made for the construction of a building for the Panchama school was also transferred to plague charges. Another latrine of double compartment will be constructed during the current year within the station-compound, as a site has been obtained from the Railway Company.

32. Under *Repairs*, Rs. 600 were spent as detailed in statement II-A, Part II—Repairs. The thatched roof of the front house of the choultry at Mélúr was replaced with tiles at a cost of Rs. 269. The other repairs are minor ones calling for no special remark.

33. *Drainage.*—A small drain was built in Kaliappa Pillai street at a cost of Rs. 25 so as to connect the one already in existence with the big drain within the railway station compound. The remaining sum of Rs. 29 under new works was the cost of stones purchased for constructing a drain along the railway compound wall so as to carry the spilt water from the well in chattram street.

Under *Repairs*, Rs. 87 were spent in repairing the drain on the great cotton road and in other petty repairs.

34. *Water-supply.*—With a view to sink another well near the fresh water-supply channel, for supply of good water to the town, some sand stones were purchased at a cost of Rs. 63 and, before the work was taken in hand, the fresh water channel had received its supply from the tank and the proposal had, therefore, to be postponed. The sum of Rs. 1,195 consisted of Rs. 384, being water charge paid to Government, Rs. 425, being the cost of providing platforms, &c., to the existing wells, Rs. 320, being the amount laid out in the springs dug when the water-supply failed and in their upkeep, and Rs. 66 in sundry repairs. There were four watchmen for guarding the water-supply from pollution and their wages amounted to Rs. 272. They had also to look after the temporary springs when the supply of water in the channel failed. The usual supply of Korampallam tank failed during the year on the 11th April and did not begin again until 30th October 1898. During this interim [illegible] was supplied from the temporary springs dug along the fresh water-supply channel and in various other places; also, from the nine pasuparai wells and springs dug thereabout. The springs were watched over by special temporary watchmen who were

to remove also the silt in them ; but, of course, such springs were not of substantial nature, being dug in loose sand, and had to be replaced very frequently by fresh ones.

The Council feel extremely thankful to Government for the kindness displayed in sanctioning the water-supply scheme and in making grants and loan from Government so as to meet the expenditure and respectfully trusts that the scheme will receive its continued attention and will be taken in hand as early as possible.

35. The other items under the grant are only normal.

36. *Grant 2, Education.*—No student was sent up for training and consequently no expenditure was incurred. The two salary-result schools—one for Muhammadans and the other for Panchamas—continued under the management of the Council at a cost of Rs. 493 against the revised estimate of Rs. 490. The charges are, as usual, and do not require any explanation.

37. The Panchama school worked with 32 boys and 4 girls with an average attendance of 29 pupils against 31 boys and 6 girls with an average attendance of 34 in the previous year. While the Muhammadan school worked with 46 boys and 12 girls with an average attendance of 50 against 40 boys and 16 girls with an average attendance of 51 in the last year.

38. *Fixed and Result Grants.*—Seven hundred and eighteen pupils were presented for examination for the grant from the three lower secondary and ten primary schools in the town against 676 pupils in the previous year ; of these 590 pupils were found qualified for grants and earned Rs. 3,179 ; but the amount disbursed to the managers of the various schools, where they have been taught, was Rs. 2,499 according to the certifying memoranda issued.

39. The results of examination are said to be fair. Out of three teachers employed in the municipal salary-result schools, two hold trained certificates and the other is an untrained man. The number of teachers in the aided schools has been 49, of whom only 14 hold trained certificates and 14 possess untrained certificates, while 9 others hold educational certificates and 7 are entirely unqualified. Five teachers have become qualified by length of service.

40. Rs. 60, being the usual contribution towards inspection, were paid to the District Board.

41. The other items need no explanation except under miscellaneous, under which Rs. 107 were spent on account of furniture to S.P.G. schools against the revised estimate of Rs. 200.

42. The total expenditure under the grant was Rs. 3,567 against Rs. 3,650 in the revised estimate. The non-utilization of the provision for normal stipends accounts for the decrease under the estimate.

43. *Grant 3, Hospitals and Dispensaries.*—Under establishment, there was a decrease of Rs. 240 under the estimate, which was due to the posting of a civil apothecary of third grade, while the provision was for one of second grade. There was also decrease under "Medicines" to the extent of Rs. 545 below the revised estimate, and this was owing to some of the medicines which were found wanting and for which orders had been sent to Bombay not having been received within the year. The amount spent includes Rs. 929 paid to Messrs. Burgoyne Burbidgs & Co., through the Accountant-General, who purchased draft ; Rs. 252, being the cost of quinine and febrifuge supplied from Government Cinchona Department, Nilgiris ; and Rs. 135, being the cost of tinctures supplied from Medical Stores, Madras. The sum of Rs. 28 shown under I (*e*) was the contribution paid to the District Board on account of the services of a clerk employed in the office of the District Medical and Sanitary officer, Tinnevelly. The midwife conducted 89 labour cases in the town during the year against 88 in the last year. She was absent on leave for six months and a substitute was appointed in her place. Her work was supervised as usual by the civil apothecary. She is paid at Rs. 12 a month besides remuneration paid by results.

44. Four hundred and fifty-four in and 13,091 out patients got treated in the dispensary against 478 in and 10,987 out patients in the previous year, with a slight

increase in the daily attendance over the last year. The recommendations of the Surgeon-General and other inspecting officers with reference to the requirements of the hospital will be complied with as funds become available. They are now being supplied one after another. The present cholera ward within hospital compound will be used as venereal ward as soon as the cholera ward building which is being erected elsewhere is opened. Twenty iron cots procured for plague sheds are now in use in the hospital, where they have proved a great improvement on the old wooden cots.

45. *Vaccination.*—This department is worked by a first-class vaccinator on Rupees 15 and a peon on Rs. 5 a month and the work is supervised by the apothecary. The vaccine depot is situated in the hospital premises. The amount expended during the year under this head was Rs. 397 against Rs. 382 in the previous year. The slight increase was due to the supply of forms locally printed. Animal lymph alone was used and the calves were hired then and there by the vaccinator himself and the hire was paid to the owner of the calves by the apothecary. The vaccinator returned during the year 1,314 cases with 1,301 successful and thirteen unsuccessful, while the medical subordinates vaccinated thirty-eight cases and all of them were successful. The results are satisfactory although there is no perceptible improvement in the quantity of work as compared with last year when he had turned out 1,280 cases. The results were mostly verified by the apothecary and two hospital assistants. Six hundred and forty-five children were vaccinated under one year of age with a result of 637 successful against 554 in the previous year. This is an improvement. The average cost of each successful case has been As. 4–10 against As. 4–8½ in the year before. The slight increase was due to the cost of books, forms, &c., printed locally. Ninety-eight persons were prosecuted for failure to get vaccinated, with conviction secured in all cases.

46. *Registration of Births and Deaths.*—The pay of the registrar amounted to Rs. 240 at Rs. 20 a month and contingencies cost Rs. 15 for registers, certificates and return forms. As usual, the registration is compulsory and recorded in the office by the people concerned. Any omission in the reports of birth and death found out by the registrar who goes about the town almost daily and by the conservancy inspectors and ward peons is noted and dealt with according to law. Nine hundred and fourteen deaths and 835 births, still-born excepted, were returned during the year against 878 and 751, respectively, in the last year. The record of births may be said to be improving. Fifty-three persons have been prosecuted during the year, thirty-nine for default of furnishing report of births and fourteen for deaths against ten and two, respectively, in the last year. Of the total number of deaths recorded, 208 died under one year of age and 132 above 60 and the remaining 574 in all other ages. One hundred and twenty-one died of cholera, 1 of small-pox and 158 from fever and the rest from other causes.

47. Cholera broke out in the town during the year in a sporadic form during the months of April, May, June and August 1898 carrying away 121 victims, against 207 attacks and 248 deaths in the last year. As usual, timely precautionary steps were resorted to.

Observation and preventive staff was employed in accordance with instructions conveyed in G.O., No. 1536, dated 9th September 1896. The hospital assistant attached to the Port Department was placed on special cholera duty with a jutka at his disposal. He was assisted by a certificated sanitary inspector and an inspector who has had training in the sanitary class attached to the Medical College, Madras. Extra scavengers were also employed for disinfection of infected quarters, and the arrangement made for same was inspected at the time by the District Medical and Sanitary officer and approved of by him. As a result of this, the disease was stamped out. In a few cases the infected huts, where the disease seemed to have taken a permanent hold, were burnt and the owners of those places compensated.

48. The District Medical and Sanitary officer's report that the town was on the whole healthy, is accompanying.

49. *Conservancy.*—The establishment charges amounted to Rs. 4,834 against the revised estimate of Rs. 5,140. The establishment consisted of one certificated sanitary inspector, two other inspectors, one of whom has been trained, five ward peons,

thirty sweepers, thirty-seven scavengers, and one prickly-pear cutter. Twelve rubbish and eleven night-soil and six sewage-water carts were at work during the year with two hand night-soil carts. The cess-pools are increasing in the town numbering about 325 in all, which were cleared of their contents almost daily by sewage-water carts. There are now sixteen public latrines in the town which are freely used by the public and attended to twice daily. The dust-bins were 204 against 186 in the last year. The maintenance of conservancy carts and bullocks cost Rs. 3,375 against Rs. 3,500 in the revised estimate. The increase is but small and calls for no remark. Six new rubbish carts were made at a cost of Rs. 406 to replace the old and unserviceable ones and some of the old ones were also repaired at a cost of Rs. 393. Twelve bullocks were newly purchased for Rs. 469. Cotton seed, straw and shoeing of bullocks cost Rs. 2,048. Rs. 59 were spent in hiring of bullocks and in the purchase of water casks for supplying water to bullocks.

The usual contingencies such as greasing carts, baskets, &c., for night-soil carts and mamaties cost Rs. 108.

50. Cholera charges cost Rs. 700 against Rs. 1,000 estimated.

51. Under *Plague Charges*, Rs. 3,208 were incurred against Rs. 4,250 sanctioned in the revised estimate. This consisted of Rs. 1,347, being moiety of pay of the Port Health officer on special plague duty and the nurse who are employed at the inspection of passengers arriving by train and ships touching this port from infected places; Rs. 1,295 on account of sheds constructed according to the plan circulated with G.O., No. 256 P., dated 23rd March 1898; Rs. 215 for iron cots; Rs. 89 for plague serum; Rs. 21 for Chinese pumps; Rs. 91 for pay of temporary establishment entertained to guard the sheds and Rs. 150 for the sundries such as lotion for disinfection, thermometer and stethescope, reward for destruction of rats, &c.

52. A site has been acquired for burial ground for Roman Catholic Christians, as already reported in the last year's administration report, but it has not yet been opened for burial since a notice should be issued under section 240 of the Act for which application has been made to you in this office letter, No. 512, dated 5th November 1898.

53. *Grant 4, Lighting and Miscellaneous Municipal Purposes—Lighting.*—Under this item there was an increase of Rs. 95 over the revised estimate which was owing to the cost of fresh supply of burners and oil containers ordered from Madras to replace the old and useless things. The new supply cost Rs. 300. Kerosine oil was purchased at a cost of Rs. 1,107 and iron brackets cost Rs. 57 and other contingencies, such as repair of lamps, castor oil for hand lamps and other sundries cost Rs. 233. The number of lamps lit was 285 against 280 in the previous year. The average cost of each lamp per mensem was As. 12–2 against As. 11–10 in the last year.

54. The expenditure under choultry, avenues and garden agreed with the revised estimate.

55. *Printing.*—The sum of Rs. 300 shown here was the cost of printing Municipal proceedings.

56. *Other items* cost Rs. 643. This is composed of Rs. 150, being usual remuneration to prosecuting vakil; Rs. 158, being cost of a decree amount and vakil fee (*minus* municipal taxes due from the decree holder) in a Small Cause suit before the Sub-Court, Tinnevelly, in which Mr. Graham of Messrs. Adamson Mactagart & Co., Agents of British India Steam Navigation Company at Tuticorin, filed a suit against the Municipality for recovery of damages said to have been sustained by his dog-cart on account of a portion of a road cut right across for flow of rain water. The Sub-judge gave decree to Plaintiff, Mr. Graham for Rs. 164, being railway fare for the said cart to and fro Madras to which it was sent for repairs. The decree having been appealed against by the Council, the High Court reduced the decree amount to Rs. 50. Copies of judgment and decree are awaited. Other miscellaneous law charges come to Rs. 102. A water pandal was maintained during the hot weather at a cost of Rs. 91. An Arabian tree which became decayed and a nuisance to the

neighbours was cut at a cost of Rs. 45. Advertisements calling for applicants for Secretary's post cost Rs. 46. Rs. 20 were paid to Government for assessments on lands held by the Municipality.

Other sundries cost Rs. 31.

57. *Grant 5.*—The total expenditure during the year under this grant was Rs. 2,891 against Rs. 2,700 in the revised estimate. The increase was due to the payment of Rs. 340 or Rs. 156 over the revised estimate on account of books, forms, &c., supplied from the Lawrence Asylum Press, Madras, and Rs. 35 above the estimate under office contingencies.

58. The sum of Rs. 30 shown under advances recoverable was the advance paid to a vakil of the High Court, Madras, in connection with the appeal against the decree in Small Cause suit mentioned in paragraph 56 *supra*.

59. The total expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 40,357.

60. *Closing Balance.*—The year closed with a balance of Rs. 5,004 or 12·1 per cent. of the current receipts against 10·4 in the last year, Rs. 1,000 of which should be reserved for plague expenditure in accordance with G.O., No. 2,164, dated 15th December 1898.

61. I may here record that the municipal staff on the whole worked fairly satisfactorily under supervision of the head clerk Ramasami Pillai, who continues to carry out his work very creditably.

Enclosure.

Concise Annual Report of the Municipal Hospital, Tuticorin, for the official year 1898–99.

(1) *Public Health.*—The public health during the year under review was on the whole satisfactory, excepting for the prevalence of cholera in a sporadic form during the first four months of the year; the total number of attacks registered was 207 with 121 deaths.

(2) *Vital Statistics.*—Nine hundred and fourteen deaths and 835 births occurred during the year which give a ratio of 36·44 and 33·26 per mille of the population, respectively. The number of deaths and births and their ratio per 1,000 for the previous five years is shown below:—

Year.	Number of		Ratio per mille of population.	
	Deaths.	Births.		
1893–94	891	818	35·47	32·59
1894–95	703	682	28·00	27·16
1895–96	766	813	30·51	32·59
1896–97	813	847	32·38	33·73
1897–98	878	761	34·97	30·52

(3) *Sanitation.*—The sanitation of the town is fairly good. The streets are attended to daily, the dust-bins are regularly cleaned of their contents and the sweepings are conveyed in carts to beyond Municipal limits where they are burnt in cinerators. The public latrines are attended to twice daily.

During the year under review 1,257 houses were worked under private scavenging system. The night-soil is carted out of the municipal limits and buried in trenches mixed with ashes. There are 325 cess-pools in the town all of which are built of masonry. The sanitary staff is looking after the sanitation satisfactorily.

(4) *Vaccination.*—The total number of cases vaccinated by the first-class municipal vaccinator was 1,314, of which 1,301 were successful against 1,280 and 1,262, respectively, in the previous year.

Six hundred and forty-five operations were performed on children under one year of age, of which 637 proved successful. The number of cases vaccinated by the medical subordinates is 38, all being successful.

The operations are done from calf-to-arm.

5. *Hospital and Dispensaries*—(*a*) *Nature and sufficiency of accommodation.*—There are two buildings for in-door patients, the accommodation available being for 21 males and 14 females. There is also a cholera ward on the standard plan affording accommodation for four males and four females.

(*b*) The buildings are in good order.

(*c*) The hospital furniture is in good order.

(*d*) *Inspections*—(1) Of the recommendations made by the Surgeon-General on 11th October 1895, the following have not yet been carried out :—

(i) Construction of a lying-in-ward and an operating room.

(ii) Construction of separate wards for venereal cases.

(2) Of the recommendations made by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, the following has not been given effect to :—

(i) Bath-rooms to be attached to the hospital building for in-patients.

(*e*) No payment was made by patients for diets supplied to them. A sum of Rs. 172-10-6 was realized from patients who were able to pay for medicines supplied to them from the hospital. The amount realized in the previous year was Rs. 687, the decrease being due to the opening of two chemists' shops in the town where private prescriptions are now dispensed.

(*f*) The number of in-door and out-door patients treated during the year compared with the previous year is shown below :—

—	In-patients.		Out-patients.	
	Treated.	Average daily.	Treated.	Average daily.
1897-98	478	14·85	10,987	125·79
1898-99	454	16·47	13,091	126·30

There has been a slight decrease of 24 in-patients which calls for no special remarks. Among out-patients there is an increase of 2,104 during the year. The average daily attendance of both classes of patients shows a trifling increase during the year and calls for no remark.

(*g*) There were 48 deaths among the in-patients during the year against 45 in the preceding year, and there were no septic diseases acquired in the hospital.

(*h*) Four hundred and sixty-one operations were performed during the year against 295 in the preceding year.

(*i*) The establishment is sufficient and efficient.

(*j*) The midwife conducted 89 labour cases in the town against 88 in the previous year.

Tuticorin,
5th June 1899.

(Signed) F. T. WATSON,
Civil Apothecary.

No. .

Forwarded.

Palamcottah,
6th June 1899.

(Signed) MUHAMMAD USMAN, Civil Surgeon,
Ag. Dist. Medl. and Sany. Officer, Tinnevelly.

Forwarded.

2. The delay of ten days in making my remarks is due to my being engaged in suppressing riots.

3. The contribution still owing to the hospital by the Taluk Board is due to the annual Taluk Board budget provision having been for some years less than the amount actually due to the Municipality. I shall put the matter straight in next budget.

4. The increase of both births and deaths registered shows that the registration was hitherto far from complete. It is probably still capable of improvement.

5. From what I have seen of the town the streets are well looked after and are in good condition, and the town generally is clean.

6. In the matter of water-supply, pending the construction of proper water-works, I have some hope of improving matters a little by arranging with the Public Works Department with whom I am in consultation to pass a regular supply through the North Main channel direct to Tuticorin at all times of the year, and by doing something to stop the present waste through the Korampullam calingula.

Camp, Nagalapuram,
23*rd June* 1899.

(Signed) A. L. VIBERT,
Sub-Collector.

D. Dis. No. 1187 U. Rev.

Submitted to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, Madras.

2. There has been an increase in the number of houses served by private scavenging agency from 1,108 in the previous year to 1,257, but it is still only 19 per cent. of the number under taxation. The system is clearly capable of further extension.

3. The midwife attended only 89 cases of labour against 88 in 1897-98 and 132 in 1896-97. No improvement has been made in this direction.

4. The delay in the submission of this report has not been explained by the Chairman.

Tinnevelly,
1*st July* 1899.

(Signed) J. P. BEDFORD,
Ag. Collector.

Order—No. 1100 M., dated 4th August 1899.

The receipts and charges of the Tuticorin Municipality for 1898-99 are compared below with the budget and revised estimates for the year and the actuals of 1897-98 :—

—	Actuals, 1897-98.	Budget estimate, 1898-99.	Revised estimate, 1898-99.	Actuals, 1898-99.
Receipts.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Balance brought forward	6,095	4,300	4,030	4,029
Tax on Arts	5,544	6,690	7,000	6,622
,, on Buildings and Lands	12,988	13,340	13,420	13,449
,, on Vehicles and Animals	1,145	1,320	1,380	1,345
,, on Carts	906	980	1,100	1,078
Tolls	11,000	10,670	11,880	11,883
Rent of Lands, Buildings, &c., and Sale-proceeds of Lands, &c.	381	400	410	275
Conservancy Receipts	20	50	60	60
Fees and Revenue from Medical Institutions	1,310	1,320	800	628
Income from Markets and Slaughter-houses	329	470	340	376
License Fees	449	530	550	628
Other Fees	61	120	140	185
Fines under Municipal and other Acts	720	700	1,200	1,354
Grants and Contributions from Government	11	280	25,250	10
,, ,, from Local Boards	1,075	1,780	1,770	1,075
Recoveries for Services to Private Individuals	1,169	1,300	1,270	1,289
Miscellaneous	118	150	950	939
Advances Recovered	1,560	..	50	136
Total ..	38,786	40,100	67,570	41,332
Grand Total ..	44,881	44,400	71,600	45,361

	Actuals, 1897-98.	Budget estimate, 1898-99.	Revised estimate, 1898-99.	Actuals, 1898-99.
Charges.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
GRANT 1—				
New Works—				
Communications	2	700	700	331
Buildings	151	200	1,670	1,004
Drainage	256	..	60	54
Water-supply	..	..	70	63
Repairs—				
Communications	5,640	5,250	5,250	4,954
Buildings	744	870	680	331
Drainage	361	260	240	229
Water-supply	1,178	1,290	1,570	1,467
Establishment	499	500	490	493
Tools and Plant and other Stores	13	50	50	103
Total ..	8,844	9,120	10,780	9,029
GRANT 2—				
Training Schools	19	120	..	..
Municipal Schools—				
On the Salary-result System	518	530	490	492
Grants-in-Aid—				
Fixed and Result Grants	2,490	2,500	2,500	2,499
Building, Furniture, &c., Grants	15	200	200	107
Inspection	60	60	60	60
Miscellaneous	389	400	400	409
Total ..	3,491	3,810	3,650	3,567
GRANT 3—				
Hospitals and Dispensaries	6,278	6,800	6,800	6,214
Contributions	353	330	330	373
Vaccination	382	350	350	397
Registration of Births and Deaths	275	250	250	255
Sanitation	13,500	13,870	15,180	13,632
Total ..	20,788	21,600	22,910	20,871
GRANT 4—				
Lighting	2,480	2,500	2,500	2,595
Markets and Slaughter-houses	6	..	..	..
Choultries	59	70	70	60
Avenues	56	80	70	61
Public Garden, Survey of Land, Fire, Pounds and other Charges	2,134	900	1,390	1,250
Total ..	4,735	3,550	4,030	3,966
GRANT 5—				
Supervision and Management	2,854	3,970	2,700	2,891
Extraordinary and Debt—				
Advances Recoverable	136	..	..	30
Refunds	4	..	30	3
Total ..	140	..	30	33
Grand Total ..	40,852	42,050	44,100	40,357
Balance	4,029	2,350	27,500	5,004

2. The Municipal Council held 17 meetings against 22 in the previous year. The average attendance of the non-official members was fair, but that of the officials continued to be indifferent. The Government expects the latter to attend the meetings more regularly in future. Two seats were filled by election during the year; but neither of them was contested.

3. *Receipts.*—(1) There was an increase of 89 in the number of persons assessed to the tax on arts; but the demand under this head fell by Rs. 281, the decline being due chiefly to the South Indian Railway Company not having been assessed during the year. Under the tax on buildings, however, the demand rose by Rs. 320, while under the land-tax it remained almost stationary. The registers of the latter tax are more than five years old and should be revised in the current year.

(2) The collections under the principal taxes improved, and were good except in the case of the arrears under the tax on arts.

(3) The receipts from the taxes on vehicles, animals and carts, tolls, license fees and fines showed an advance, while those from the sale of medicines fell off, the decline being ascribed to the opening of two private shops in the town for dispensing medicines.

(4) It is satisfactory to observe that there was an increase of 149 in the number of houses served by the private scavenging agency and of Rs. 120 in the fees levied on this account. The cost of this service, excluding the expenditure incurred on account of carts and bullocks, which was included under general conservancy charges, amounted to Rs. 840 and was more than covered by the receipts. A proper portion of the expenditure incurred on account of carts and bullocks should in future be debited to this head. As this system is now adopted by only 19 per cent. of the number of houses assessed to the tax on buildings, there is still ample scope for its extension, and the Municipal Council should try to extend it as widely as possible.

4. *Expenditure*—(1) *Public Works.*—No new work of importance was undertaken during the year. The outlay on communications amounted to Rs. 5,285 or 44·5 per cent. of the net municipal income from tolls against the minimum of 50 per cent. prescribed by Government, the short expenditure being due to a portion of the allotment under this head having been utilized for plague charges. The Revenue Divisional officer, however, reports that the streets were well looked after and that they were in good condition.

(2) *Education.*—The net expenditure on education amounted to Rs. 3,557 or 10·3 per cent. of the receipts from taxation. Of this sum, Rs. 2,587 were spent on primary, and the remainder on secondary, education. As in the previous year, the Municipal Council maintained two primary schools on the salary-result system, of which one was for Muhammadans and the other for Panchamas, and aided three secondary and ten primary schools with result grants. The attendance at the aided schools improved, but that at the municipal schools was almost the same as in the previous year. The results of the departmental and grant examinations were fair and the allotment for result grants was almost fully utilized. The total number of boys under instruction in the municipal and aided schools rose from 1,021 or 49·6 per cent. of the male population of school-going age to 1,188 or 57·8 per cent.—a satisfactory advance.

(3) *Medical Relief.*—The number of in-patients treated in the municipal hospital fell from 478 to 454, but that of out-patients rose, being 13,091 against 10,987 in 1897–98. The increase in the latter case has not been explained—an omission which should now be supplied. The midwife employed by the Council attended 89 cases of labour or only one more than in the previous year. This is a poor outturn and she should be required to do better work in the current year.

(4) *Vaccination and Vital Statistics.*—The total number of vaccinations performed during the year rose from 1,317 to 1,352 and the percentage of reported success was 99·0 against 97·6 in 1897–98. Infantile vaccination also showed an advance, the number of children under one year successfully vaccinated being 637 or 25·4 per mille of the population against 534 or 21·3 per mille in the previous year and a registered birth-rate of 33·3 per mille.

There was an increase in the numbers of births and deaths registered during the year. The death-rate exceeded the normal owing to the prevalence of cholera in the town; but the birth returns were still incomplete, the rate recorded being much below the normal. Every effort should be made to render these returns more accurate.

(5) *Sanitation.*—The outlay under this head amounted to Rs. 13,632 or 98·3 per cent. of the allotment and was 33·0 per cent. of the current receipts. The Civil Apothecary reports that the sanitation of the town was fairly good; but as cholera was prevalent in the town for the fourth year in succession and caused as many as 121 deaths, it is evident that this branch of the administration still demands much attention, and the Municipal Council should not rest contented until all the defects pointed out from time to time by the Sanitary officers have been remedied. The closure of the Roman Catholic burial-ground, referred to in paragraph 52 of the Chairman's report, has been sanctioned in G.O., No. 964 M., dated 10th July 1899.

5. *General Remarks.*—The year closed with a balance of Rs. 5,004 or 12·1 per cent. of the current receipts.

Except in regard to the registration of births, the administration of the Municipality during the year under review continued to be fairly satisfactory.

(True Extract.)

M. HAMMICK,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Chairman, Municipal Council, Tuticorin.
" Collector of Tinnevelly.
" President, District Board, Tinnevelly.
" Accountant-General.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" Surgeon-General.
" Sanitary Board.
" " Commissioner.
" " Engineer.
Editors' Table.

Exd. C. Parthasarathy.

Government {1899} of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Read. } 1899. *Enclosures*
Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 1100 M., 4th August 1899.

AUGUST.

Administration Report.

Reviewing the — of the Tuticorin Municipal Council for 1898-99.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper :—

From G. ZELLWEGER, Esq., Chairman, Municipal Council, Tuticorin, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated 9th June 1899, No. 174.

I have the honour to submit the administration report on the working of this municipality for the financial year 1898–99 with the usual statements noted below :—

(1) Statement of receipts and charges.
(2) Statement on the progress of education of males.
(3) Statement on the progress of education of females.
(4) Concise medical report.
(5) Copy of the resolution of the Council.

I.—Constitution of the Council.

2. The office of Chairman was held by the undersigned during the year under report.

There were two elective seats vacant during the year in the second and third wards which were duly filled up uncontested. The Council had its full compliment of sixteen members on the 31st March 1899. Seventeen meetings were held by the Council during the year against 22 in the previous year with an average attendance, at each meeting, of 0·53 official and 8·29 non-official, against 0·86 official and 8·86 non-official in the previous year. No meeting was adjourned for want of a quorum.

II.—Receipts.

3. The total receipts of the year, including the opening balance of Rs. 4,030, were Rs. 45,361 and the expenditure during the year was Rs. 40,357, leaving a balance of Rs. 5,004 at the end of the year. Of the total receipts of Rs. 41,332, Rs. 34,377 were derived from rates and taxes and the remaining sum of Rs. 6,955 from other sources. The year compares favourably with the last year, there having been Rs. 2,546 more than the receipts of the last year, which is mainly ascribed to the increased realization under rates and taxes.

A.—Rates from Taxation.

4. *Tax on Arts, &c.*—This tax was, as usual, revised during the year with careful scrutiny and levied on all the nine classes of the schedule. The net demand was Rs. 6,369 after reduction of Rs. 269 made by the Council on appeal. Rs. 6,010 were collected with a balance of Rs. 188 left at the end of the year. Rs. 171 were written off as irrecoverable. The number of appeals received against the assessment was 145 for Rs. 801, of which Rs. 269 were remitted by the Council in 97 cases and Rs. 327 confirmed in 46 cases; two appeals involving Rs. 16–8–0 are pending disposal.

There is a decrease of Rs. 280 in the net demand of the year under report as compared with that of the last year which is mainly due to the South Indian Railway Company not having been assessed during the year under G.O., Mis. No. 1201 M., dated 6th July 1898. The balance left was only Rs. 188 which is comparatively very little and Rs. 52 of this sum have been since collected.

5. Of the arrear demand of Rs. 1,065, Rs. 611 were collected and Rs. 280 written off with a balance of Rs. 175 left. The writes-off include Rs. 100 imposed upon the South Indian Railway Company.

6. *Tax on Buildings.*—This tax was revised last in 1894–95 with a few additions to, and extensions of, the old taxes which had been brought to book. The gross demand under this tax was Rs. 13,218, of which Rs. 9 were remitted on appeal. The net demand was, therefore, Rs. 13,209, of which Rs. 13,152 were collected against Rs. 12,778 in the previous year, leaving a balance of Rs. 25 after striking off the account Rs. 30. Rs. 2 were remitted on account of vacant houses. The appeals entertained against the assessment of this tax were nine in number involving a sum of Rs. 38, of which Rs. 9 were reduced in seven cases and Rs. 3 confirmed in two cases. The number of buildings assessed to this tax was 6,570 excludiug 190 buildings which were exempted from taxation, being mere huts, temples, &c., excepted in section 63 (1 and 5) of the Act.

7. The incidence of house-tax on the net demand has again risen during the year from Rs. 1–5–10 to Rs. 2–0–2, which is the result of the increased number of buildings.

8. Of the arrear demand of Rs. 84, Rs. 73 were collected with Rs. 3 left outstanding at the end of the year and Rs. 8 written off as irrecoverable.

9. *Tax on Lands.*—The net demand of this tax was Rs. 222 after a remission on appeal of Re. 1. Of this, Rs. 215 were collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 3. Rs. 3 were written off as the land has been built upon and building-tax imposed on same.

10. Under arrears of this tax Rs. 9 were collected and Rs. 4 struck off the account as irrecoverable.

11. *Taxes on Vehicles with Springs and Animals.*—The usual maximum rates were in operation here. The gross demands were Rs. 491 and Rs. 930 with remission of Re. 1 granted by the Council against the tax on animals. Rs. 436 and Rs. 812 were collected, respectively, with balances of Rs. 46 and Rs. 97 left outstanding at the close of the year. Rs. 9 and Rs. 20 were written off as irrecoverable. Here also increase is shown to the extent of Rs. 52 and Rs. 55, respectively, over the actuals of the previous year.

12. *Tax on Carts without Springs.*—This tax was levied at Rs. 4 per cart per annum and the net demand was Rs. 1,112 without any appeal. Rs 1,036 were collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 62 at the end of the year. Rs. 14 were written off as irrecoverable.

13. *Cœrcive Process.*—The number of warrants issued during the year was 1,461 for Rs. 2,713 against 1,092 warrants in the last year for Rs. 2,281. The warrants that remained unexecuted at the beginning of the year were 689 for Rs. 1,234. The total number was, therefore, 2,150 involving an aggregate sum of Rs. 3,947. Of this, 1,879 warrants were executed and cancelled to the extent of Rs. 3,341. Rs. 8 were realized on distraint in three cases; but in no case was the property sold.

14. *Tolls.*—The full amount of revenue from the three toll-gates, viz., Rs. 17,825 for which they were farmed out was realized during the year and credited to this head, deducting one-third share paid to the District Board. There is an increase of Rs. 1,325 under this head which was the result of competition at the time of sale of tolls.

15. *Incidence of Taxation.*—The average incidence per head of the population, according to the last census, was Rs. 1–5–11 with, and As. 14–4 without, tolls against Rs. 1–4–2 and As. 13–1, respectively, in the last year. Thus it will be seen that there has been gradual increase year after year under the several items of taxation.

B.—Miscellaneous Receipts.

16. *Produce of Garden.*—Under this head Rs. 82 were realized by the sale of produce against Rs. 144 in the year before. The cause for the decrease has been already explained in paragraph 3 of my letter, dated 19th January 1899, No. 25, embodied in G.O., No. 360 M., dated 14th March 1899, reviewing budget of this

municipality. It is, however, hoped that the garden may be made to stand by itself as other seedlings have begun to yield. The well in the garden is largely used by people in the town.

17. *Conservancy Receipts.*—Rs. 60 were realized by the sale of the droppings of the municipal bullocks against Rs. 20 in the last year.

With reference to paragraph 3 (3) of G.O., No. 1588 M., dated 9th September 1898, I beg to report that unlike other places there are no paddy fields in the vicinity of the town which could utilize for manuring purposes, the sweepings of the town and the cartage hire of the same to the vicinity of the "Korampallam" tank situated 4 miles off the town is rather prohibitive and not worth paying. There are no offers for sweepings to be deposited in the gardens of the town even at 1 anna per cart-load.

18. *Sale-proceeds and Composition Fee of Medicines, &c.*—Rs. 628 only were realized from this source against Rs. 1,310 in the last year. This is composed of medicines compounded in the hospital and fees from out-patients. The income has again fallen down this year for the reasons stated in the concluding sentence of paragraph 19 of my last year's administration report. Two chemist shops have been opened in the town where prescriptions are dispensed under the supervision of the Colonial Assistant Surgeon of Ceylon who is stationed here on plague duty.

19. *Income from the Slaughter-house.*—The full amount of Rs. 340 for which this had been leased out was realized during the year, and the sum of Rs. 36 was the amount recovered from the civil action taken against the defaulting contractor of 1897-98, referred to in paragraph 30 of the last year's administration report.

20. *Warrant Fees.*—Rs. 178 were realized from this source against Rs. 54 in the last year. The increase is due to the larger number of warrants executed during the year.

21. *License Fees.*—Rs. 628 were recovered from this item against Rs. 449 in the last year. The increase was due to the close supervision and booking of the materials lodged in the streets, from which alone Rs. 212 were levied.

22. *Fines under Municipal and other Acts.*—The sum of Rs. 1,354 levied during the year by the second-class Magistrate was in excess of the last year's realization by Rs. 634. This is the result of deterrent fines imposed in cases which also have increased in number.

23. *Grants and Contributions from Government on account of Education.*—As usual, no student was sent up for training and hence no receipts against normal stipends. The only income of Rs. 10 was the grant earned by the pupils of salary-result Panchama and Muhammadan schools under the management of the municipality.

24. The Local Fund contribution of Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 75 were, as usual, received from the Tuticorin Taluk Board on account of one-fourth the net cost of the dispensary and maintenance of the municipal chattram at Mélúr. A sum of Rs. 1,020 is yet due from the Taluk Board and is shown in note to statement II.

25. *Miscellaneous—Private Scavenging Fees.*—Rs. 1,290 have been realized from this item against Rs. 1,169 in the last year. It is admitted that there is still much scope for extension of the system for which no pains are being spared, but which can only be gradually accomplished. As observed by Government in paragraph 3 (4) of Government Order reviewing the last year's administration report, this service is not intended to be a source of profit to the Council. The expenditure incurred for the carts and bullocks maintained for the service is mixed up with Grant 3 (5) (*a*) (ii), and not proportionately debited to (5) (*b*) (ii).

The number of houses served by private scavenging agency was, on the 31st March 1899, 1,257 against 1,108 in the last year. The system of collecting fees in advance is being enforced as far as possible and will receive renewed attention.

26. *Refunds of Expenditure of previous years.*—Rs. 803 shown here was the amount recovered from Government as refund of pay disbursed to the Military Assistant Surgeon referred to in paragraph 37 of the administration report of 1896-97.

27. *Other items.*—The sum of Rs. 111-9-0 herein referred to consisted of Rs. 105, being interest which accrued from the fixed deposit amount invested in the Bank and Rs. 6-9-0, being sale-proceeds of Act books.

Advances.—The sum of Rs. 136 was the amount made up of Rs. 90 refunded by the civil apothecary to whom it was advanced, and Rs. 46 adjusted on account of repair of drain within the premises of the South Indian Railway.

III.—Expenditure.

28. The total expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 40,357 against Rs. 40,852 in the previous year, with a small decrease of Rs. 495 which will be explained below where necessary.

29. *Grant 1, Communications.*—No new works were undertaken during the year as the provision made in the budget has been transferred to plague expenditure under G.O., Mis. No. 2164 M., dated 15th December 1898.

30. Under *Repairs*, Rs. 5,851 were spent as shown in Part II, statement II-A. This includes Rs. 202, being compensation paid to the owner of a bit of land which was acquired for widening a portion of a street. Rs. 566 spent for watering some of the roads which were cut up by heavy traffic and Rs. 129 expended towards the construction of tunnels at some parts of certain streets. All the roads were kept in good order by constant attention to their upkeep and the side roads were also carefully looked after.

31. *Buildings.*—As already reported in paragraph 33 of the last year's administration report, two open latrines on dry earth system have been constructed within the railway station compound on Rs. 200 and eighteen moveable metal dust-bins have been purchased for Rs. 192. The hospital assistant's house has been provided with a compound wall at a cost of Rs. 170. A portion of new cholera ward has been constructed at a cost of Rs. 173. The provision of Rs. 600 made for the construction of a building for the Panchama school was also transferred to plague charges. Another latrine of double compartment will be constructed during the current year within the station-compound, as a site has been obtained from the Railway Company.

32. Under *Repairs*, Rs. 600 were spent as detailed in statement II-A, Part II—Repairs. The thatched roof of the front house of the choultry at Mélúr was replaced with tiles at a cost of Rs. 269. The other repairs are minor ones calling for no special remark.

33. *Drainage.*—A small drain was built in Kaliappa Pillai street at a cost of Rs. 25 so as to connect the one already in existence with the big drain within the railway station compound. The remaining sum of Rs. 29 under new works was the cost of stones purchased for constructing a drain along the railway compound wall so as to carry the spilt water from the well in chattram street.

Under *Repairs*, Rs. 87 were spent in repairing the drain on the great cotton road and in other petty repairs.

34. *Water-supply.*—With a view to sink another well near the fresh water-supply channel, for supply of good water to the town, some sand stones were purchased at a cost of Rs. 63 and, before the work was taken in hand, the fresh water channel had received its supply from the tank and the proposal had, therefore, to be postponed. The sum of Rs. 1,195 consisted of Rs. 384, being water charge paid to Government, Rs. 425, being the cost of providing platforms, &c., to the existing wells, Rs. 320, being the amount laid out in the springs dug when the water-supply failed and in their upkeep, and Rs. 66 in sundry repairs. There were four watchmen for guarding the water-supply from pollution and their wages amounted to Rs. 272. They had also to look after the temporary springs when the supply of water in the channel failed. The usual supply of Korampallam tank failed during the year on the 11th April and did not begin again until 30th October 1898. During this interim the town was supplied from the temporary springs dug along the fresh water-supply channel and in various other places; also, from the nine pasuparai wells and springs dug thereabout. The springs were watched over by special temporary watchmen who were

to remove also the silt in them : but, of course, such springs were not of substantial nature, being dug in loose sand, and had to be replaced very frequently by fresh ones.

The Council feel extremely thankful to Government for the kindness displayed in sanctioning the water-supply scheme and in making grants and loan from Government so as to meet the expenditure and respectfully trusts that the scheme will receive its continued attention and will be taken in hand as early as possible.

35. The other items under the grant are only normal.

36. *Grant 2, Education.*—No student was sent up for training and consequently no expenditure was incurred. The two salary-result schools—one for Muhammadans and the other for Panchamas—continued under the management of the Council at a cost of Rs. 493 against the revised estimate of Rs. 490. The charges are, as usual, and do not require any explanation.

37. The Panchama school worked with 32 boys and 4 girls with an average attendance of 29 pupils against 31 boys and 6 girls with an average attendance of 34 in the previous year. While the Muhammadan school worked with 46 boys and 12 girls with an average attendance of 50 against 40 boys and 16 girls with an average attendance of 51 in the last year.

38. *Fixed and Result Grants.*—Seven hundred and eighteen pupils were presented for examination for the grant from the three lower secondary and ten primary schools in the town against 676 pupils in the previous year ; of these 590 pupils were found qualified for grants and earned Rs. 3,179 ; but the amount disbursed to the managers of the various schools, where they have been taught, was Rs. 2,499 according to the certifying memoranda issued.

39. The results of examination are said to be fair. Out of three teachers employed in the municipal salary-result schools, two hold trained certificates and the other is an untrained man. The number of teachers in the aided schools has been 49, of whom only 14 hold trained certificates and 14 possess untrained certificates, while 9 others hold educational certificates and 7 are entirely unqualified. Five teachers have become qualified by length of service.

40. Rs. 60, being the usual contribution towards inspection, were paid to the District Board.

41. The other items need no explanation except under miscellaneous, under which Rs. 107 were spent on account of furniture to S.P.G. schools against the revised estimate of Rs. 200.

42. The total expenditure under the grant was Rs. 3,567 against Rs. 3,650 in the revised estimate. The non-utilization of the provision for normal stipends accounts for the decrease under the estimate.

43. *Grant 3, Hospitals and Dispensaries.*—Under establishment, there was a decrease of Rs. 240 under the estimate, which was due to the posting of a civil apothecary of third grade, while the provision was for one of second grade. There was also decrease under "Medicines" to the extent of Rs. 545 below the revised estimate, and this was owing to some of the medicines which were found wanting and for which orders had been sent to Bombay not having been received within the year. The amount spent includes Rs. 929 paid to Messrs. Burgoyne Burbidgs & Co., through the Accountant-General, who purchased draft ; Rs. 252, being the cost of quinine and febrifuge supplied from Government Cinchona Department, Nilgiris ; and Rs. 135, being the cost of tinctures supplied from Medical Stores, Madras. The sum of Rs. 28 shown under I (*e*) was the contribution paid to the District Board on account of the services of a clerk employed in the office of the District Medical and Sanitary officer, Tinnevelly. The midwife conducted 89 labour cases in the town during the year against 88 in the last year. She was absent on leave for six months and a substitute was appointed in her place. Her work was supervised as usual by the civil apothecary. She is paid at Rs. 12 a month besides remuneration paid by results.

44. Four hundred and fifty-four in and 13,091 out patients got treated in the dispensary against 478 in and 10,987 out patients in the previous year, with a slight

increase in the daily attendance over the last year. The recommendations of the Surgeon-General and other inspecting officers with reference to the requirements of the hospital will be complied with as funds become available. They are now being supplied one after another. The present cholera ward within hospital compound will be used as venereal ward as soon as the cholera ward building which is being erected elsewhere is opened. Twenty iron cots procured for plague sheds are now in use in the hospital, where they have proved a great improvement on the old wooden cots.

45. *Vaccination.*—This department is worked by a first-class vaccinator on Rupees 15 and a peon on Rs. 5 a month and the work is supervised by the apothecary. The vaccine depot is situated in the hospital premises. The amount expended during the year under this head was Rs. 397 against Rs. 382 in the previous year. The slight increase was due to the supply of forms locally printed. Animal lymph alone was used and the calves were hired then and there by the vaccinator himself and the hire was paid to the owner of the calves by the apothecary. The vaccinator returned during the year 1,314 cases with 1,301 successful and thirteen unsuccessful, while the medical subordinates vaccinated thirty-eight cases and all of them were successful. The results are satisfactory although there is no perceptible improvement in the quantity of work as compared with last year when he had turned out 1,280 cases. The results were mostly verified by the apothecary and two hospital assistants. Six hundred and forty-five children were vaccinated under one year of age with a result of 637 successful against 554 in the previous year. This is an improvement. The average cost of each successful case has been As. 4–10 against As. 4–8½ in the year before. The slight increase was due to the cost of books, forms, &c., printed locally. Ninety-eight persons were prosecuted for failure to get vaccinated, with conviction secured in all cases.

46. *Registration of Births and Deaths.*—The pay of the registrar amounted to Rs. 240 at Rs. 20 a month and contingencies cost Rs. 15 for registers, certificates and return forms. As usual, the registration is compulsory and recorded in the office by the people concerned Any omission in the reports of birth and death found out by the registrar who goes about the town almost daily and by the conservancy inspectors and ward peons is noted and dealt with according to law. Nine hundred and fourteen deaths and 835 births, still-born excepted, were returned during the year against 878 and 751, respectively, in the last year. The record of births may be said to be improving. Fifty-three persons have been prosecuted during the year, thirty-nine for default of furnishing report of births and fourteen for deaths against ten and two, respectively, in the last year. Of the total number of deaths recorded, 208 died under one year of age and 132 above 60 and the remaining 574 in all other ages. One hundred and twenty-one died of cholera, 1 of small-pox and 158 from fever and the rest from other causes.

47. Cholera broke out in the town during the year in a sporadic form during the months of April, May, June and August 1898 carrying away 121 victims, against 207 attacks and 248 deaths in the last year. As usual, timely precautionary steps were resorted to.

Observation and preventive staff was employed in accordance with instructions conveyed in G.O., No. 1536, dated 9th September 1896. The hospital assistant attached to the Port Department was placed on special cholera duty with a jutka at his disposal. He was assisted by a certificated sanitary inspector and an inspector who has had training in the sanitary class attached to the Medical College, Madras. Extra scavengers were also employed for disinfection of infected quarters, and the arrangement made for same was inspected at the time by the District Medical and Sanitary officer and approved of by him. As a result of this, the disease was stamped out. In a few cases the infected huts, where the disease seemed to have taken a permanent hold, were burnt and the owners of those places compensated.

48. The District Medical and Sanitary officer's report that the town was on the whole healthy, is accompanying.

49. *Conservancy.*—The establishment charges amounted to Rs. 4,834 against the revised estimate of Rs. 5,140. The establishment consisted of one certificated sanitary inspector, two other inspectors, one of whom has been trained, five ward peons,

thirty sweepers, thirty-seven scavengers, and one prickly-pear cutter. Twelve rubbish and eleven night-soil and six sewage-water carts were at work during the year with two hand night-soil carts. The cess-pools are increasing in the town numbering about 325 in all, which were cleared of their contents almost daily by sewage-water carts. There are now sixteen public latrines in the town which are freely used by the public and attended to twice daily. The dust-bins were 204 against 186 in the last year. The maintenance of conservancy carts and bullocks cost Rs. 3,375 against Rs. 3,500 in the revised estimate. The increase is but small and calls for no remark. Six new rubbish carts were made at a cost of Rs. 406 to replace the old and unserviceable ones and some of the old ones were also repaired at a cost of Rs. 393. Twelve bullocks were newly purchased for Rs. 469. Cotton seed, straw and shoeing of bullocks cost Rs. 2,048. Rs. 59 were spent in hiring of bullocks and in the purchase of water casks for supplying water to bullocks.

The usual contingencies such as greasing carts, baskets, &c., for night-soil carts and mamaties cost Rs. 108.

50. Cholera charges cost Rs. 700 against Rs. 1,000 estimated.

51. Under *Plague Charges*, Rs. 3,208 were incurred against Rs. 4,250 sanctioned in the revised estimate. This consisted of Rs 1,347, being moiety of pay of the Port Health officer on special plague duty and the nurse who are employed at the inspection of passengers arriving by train and ships touching this port from infected places; Rs. 1,295 on account of sheds constructed according to the plan circulated with G.O., No. 256 P., dated 23rd March 1898; Rs. 215 for iron cots; Rs. 89 for plague serum; Rs. 21 for Chinese pumps; Rs. 91 for pay of temporary establishment entertained to guard the sheds and Rs. 150 for the sundries such as lotion for disinfection, thermometer and stethescope, reward for destruction of rats, &c.

52. A site has been acquired for burial ground for Roman Catholic Christians, as already reported in the last year's administration report, but it has not yet been opened for burial since a notice should be issued under section 240 of the Act for which application has been made to you in this office letter, No. 512, dated 5th November 1898.

53. *Grant 4, Lighting and Miscellaneous Municipal Purposes—Lighting.*—Under this item there was an increase of Rs. 95 over the revised estimate which was owing to the cost of fresh supply of burners and oil containers ordered from Madras to replace the old and useless things. The new supply cost Rs. 300. Kerosine oil was purchased at a cost of Rs. 1,107 and iron brackets cost Rs. 57 and other contingencies, such as repair of lamps, castor oil for hand lamps and other sundries cost Rs. 233. The number of lamps lit was 285 against 280 in the previous year. The average cost of each lamp per mensem was As. 12-2 against As. 11-10 in the last year.

54. The expenditure under choultry, avenues and garden agreed with the revised estimate.

55. *Printing.*—The sum of Rs. 300 shown here was the cost of printing Municipal proceedings.

56. *Other items* cost Rs. 643. This is composed of Rs. 150, being usual remuneration to prosecuting vakil; Rs. 158, being cost of a decree amount and vakil fee (*minus* municipal taxes due from the decree holder) in a Small Cause suit before the Sub-Court, Tinnevelly, in which Mr. Graham of Messrs. Adamson Mactagart & Co., Agents of British India Steam Navigation Company at Tuticorin, filed a suit against the Municipality for recovery of damages said to have been sustained by his dog-cart on account of a portion of a road cut right across for flow of rain water. The Subjudge gave decree to Plaintiff, Mr. Graham for Rs. 164, being railway fare for the said cart to and fro Madras to which it was sent for repairs. The decree having been appealed against by the Council, the High Court reduced the decree amount to Rs. 50. Copies of judgment and decree are awaited. Other miscellaneous law charges come to Rs. 102. A water pandal was maintained during the hot weather at a cost of Rs. 91. An Arabian tree which became decayed and nuisance to the

neighbours was cut at a cost of Rs. 45. Advertisements calling for applicants for Secretary's post cost Rs. 46. Rs. 20 were paid to Government for assessments on lands held by the Municipality.

Other sundries cost Rs. 31.

57. *Grant 5.*—The total expenditure during the year under this grant was Rs. 2,891 against Rs. 2,700 in the revised estimate. The increase was due to the payment of Rs. 340 or Rs. 156 over the revised estimate on account of books, forms, &c., supplied from the Lawrence Asylum Press, Madras, and Rs. 35 above the estimate under office contingencies.

58. The sum of Rs. 30 shown under advances recoverable was the advance paid to a vakil of the High Court, Madras, in connection with the appeal against the decree in Small Cause suit mentioned in paragraph 56 *supra*.

59. The total expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 40,357.

60. *Closing Balance.*—The year closed with a balance of Rs. 5,004 or 12·1 per cent. of the current receipts against 10·4 in the last year, Rs. 1,000 of which should be reserved for plague expenditure in accordance with G.O., No. 2,164, dated 15th December 1898.

61. I may here record that the municipal staff on the whole worked fairly satisfactorily under supervision of the head clerk Ramasami Pillai, who continues to carry out his work very creditably.

Enclosure.

Concise Annual Report of the Municipal Hospital, Tuticorin, for the official year 1898-99.

(1) *Public Health.*—The public health during the year under review was on the whole satisfactory, excepting for the prevalence of cholera in a sporadic form during the first four months of the year; the total number of attacks registered was 207 with 121 deaths.

(2) *Vital Statistics.*—Nine hundred and fourteen deaths and 835 births occurred during the year which give a ratio of 36·44 and 33·26 per mille of the population, respectively. The number of deaths and births and their ratio per 1,000 for the previous five years is shown below:—

Year.	Number of		Ratio per mille of population.	
	Deaths.	Births.		
1893-94	891	818	35·47	32·59
1894-95	703	682	28·00	27·16
1895-96	766	818	30·51	32·59
1896-97	813	847	32·38	33·73
1897-98	878	761	34·97	30·52

(3) *Sanitation.*—The sanitation of the town is fairly good. The streets are attended to daily, the dust-bins are regularly cleaned of their contents and the sweepings are conveyed in carts to beyond Municipal limits where they are burnt in cinerators. The public latrines are attended to twice daily.

During the year under review 1,257 houses were worked under private scavenging system. The night-soil is carted out of the municipal limits and buried in trenches mixed with ashes. There are 325 cess-pools in the town all of which are built of masonry. The sanitary staff is looking after the sanitation satisfactorily.

(4) *Vaccination.*—The total number of cases vaccinated by the first-class municipal vaccinator was 1,314, of which 1,301 were successful against 1,280 and 1,262, respectively, in the previous year.

Six hundred and forty-five operations were performed on children under one year of age, of which 637 proved successful. The number of cases vaccinated by the medical subordinates is 38, all being successful.

The operations are done from calf-to-arm.

5. *Hospital and Dispensaries*—(*a*) *Nature and sufficiency of accommodation.*—There are two buildings for in-door patients, the accommodation available being for 21 males and 14 females. There is also a cholera ward on the standard plan affording accommodation for four males and four females.

(*b*) The buildings are in good order.

(*c*) The hospital furniture is in good order.

(*d*) *Inspections*—(1) Of the recommendations made by the Surgeon-General on 11th October 1895, the following have not yet been carried out :—

(i) Construction of a lying-in-ward and an operating room.
(ii) Construction of separate wards for venereal cases.

(2) Of the recommendations made by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, the following has not been given effect to :—

(i) Bath-rooms to be attached to the hospital building for in-patients.

(*e*) No payment was made by patients for diets supplied to them. A sum of Rs. 172–10–6 was realized from patients who were able to pay for medicines supplied to them from the hospital. The amount realized in the previous year was Rs. 687, the decrease being due to the opening of two chemists' shops in the town where private prescriptions are now dispensed.

(*f*) The number of in-door and out-door patients treated during the year compared with the previous year is shown below :—

—	In-patients.		Out-patients.	
	Treated.	Average daily.	Treated.	Average daily.
1897–98	478	14·85	10,987	125·79
1898–99	454	16·47	13,091	126·30

There has been a slight decrease of 24 in-patients which calls for no special remarks. Among out-patients there is an increase of 2,104 during the year. The average daily attendance of both classes of patients shows a trifling increase during the year and calls for no remark.

(*g*) There were 48 deaths among the in-patients during the year against 45 in the preceding year, and there were no septic diseases acquired in the hospital.

(*h*) Four hundred and sixty-one operations were performed during the year against 295 in the preceding year.

(*i*) The establishment is sufficient and efficient.

(*j*) The midwife conducted 89 labour cases in the town against 88 in the previous year.

Tuticorin, 5*th June* 1899. (Signed) F. T. WATSON, *Civil Apothecary.*

No. .

Forwarded.

Palamcottah, 6*th June* 1899. (Signed) MUHAMMAD USMAN, Civil Surgeon, *Ag. Dist. Medl. and Sany. Officer, Tinnevelly.*

No. A. (2

Forwarded.

2. The delay of ten days in making my remarks is due to my being engaged in suppressing riots.

3. The contribution still owing to the hospital by the Taluk Board is due to the annual Taluk Board budget provision having been for some years less than the amount actually due to the Municipality. I shall put the matter straight in next budget.

4. The increase of both births and deaths registered shows that the registration was hitherto far from complete. It is probably still capable of improvement.

5. From what I have seen of the town the streets are well looked after and are in good condition, and the town generally is clean.

6. In the matter of water-supply, pending the construction of proper water-works, I have some hope of improving matters a little by arranging with the Public Works Department with whom I am in consultation to pass a regular supply through the North Main channel direct to Tuticorin at all times of the year, and by doing something to stop the present waste through the Korampullam calingula.

Camp, Nagalapuram, 23*rd June* 1899. (Signed) A. L. VIBERT, *Sub-Collector.*

D. Dis. No. 1187 U. Rev.

Submitted to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, Madras.

2. There has been an increase in the number of houses served by private scavenging agency from 1,108 in the previous year to 1,257, but it is still only 19 per cent. of the number under taxation. The system is clearly capable of further extension.

3. The midwife attended only 89 cases of labour against 88 in 1897–98 and 132 in 1896–97. No improvement has been made in this direction.

4. The delay in the submission of this report has not been explained by the Chairman.

Tinnevelly, 1*st July* 1899. (Signed) J. P. BEDFORD, *Ag. Collector.*

Order—No. 1100 M., dated 4th August 1899.

The receipts and charges of the Tuticorin Municipality for 1898–99 are compared below with the budget and revised estimates for the year and the actuals of 1897–98 :—

—	Actuals, 1897–98.	Budget estimate, 1898–99.	Revised estimate, 1898–99.	Actuals, 1898–99.
Receipts.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Balance brought forward	6,095	4,300	4,030	4,029
Tax on Arts	5,544	6,690	7,000	6,622
„ on Buildings and Lands	12,988	13,340	13,420	13,449
„ on Vehicles and Animals	1,145	1,320	1,380	1,345
„ on Carts	906	980	1,100	1,078
Tolls	11,000	10,670	11,880	11,883
Rent of Lands, Buildings, &c., and Sale-proceeds of Lands, &c.	381	400	410	275
Conservancy Receipts	20	50	60	60
Fees and Revenue from Medical Institutions	1,310	1,320	800	628
Income from Markets and Slaughter-houses	329	470	340	376
License Fees	449	530	550	628
Other Fees	61	120	140	185
Fines under Municipal and other Acts	720	700	1,200	1,354
Grants and Contributions from Government	11	280	25,250	10
„ „ from Local Boards	1,075	1,780	1,770	1,075
Recoveries for Services to Private Individuals	1,169	1,300	1,270	1,289
Miscellaneous	118	150	950	939
Advances Recovered	1,560	..	50	136
Total ..	38,786	40,100	67,570	41,332
Grand Total ..	44,881	44,400	71,600	45,361

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Current No. 1783 M of 1899, dated from the Chairman M.C.

Current No. of 189 , dated from the Tuticorin

Current No of 189 , dated from the

Current No. of 189 , dated from the

Order. No 1100 Mun dy 4/8/99

The ~~estimated~~ receipts and charges of the Tuticorin Municipality for 1898-99, ~~as passed by Government~~, are compared below with the budget and revised estimates for the year and the actuals of 1897-98.

	Actuals, 1897-98.	Budget Estimate, 1898-99.	Revised Estimate, 1898-99.	Actuals 1898-99.
Receipts.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Balance brought forward	6095	4300	4029	4029
Tax on Arts	5544	6690	7000	6622
Tax on Buildings and Lands	12988	13340	13420	13449
Water and Drainage Tax on Buildings and Lands ..	"	"	"	"
Tax on Vehicles and Animals	1145	1320	1380	1345
Tax on Carts	906	980	1100	1078
Tax on Private Menial and Domestic Male Servants ..	"	"	"	"
Tolls	11000	10667	11883	11883
Realizations under Special Acts	"	"	"	"
Rent of Lands, Buildings, &c., and Sale-proceeds of Lands, &c.	381	400	408	275
Conservancy Receipts	20	50	60	60
Fees and Revenue from Educational Institutions ..	"	"	"	"
Do. from Medical Institutions	1360	1325	800	628
Income from Markets and Slaughter-houses	329	475	340	376
License Fees	449	530	550	626
Other Fees	61	120	135	185
Fines under Municipal and other Acts	720	700	1200	1354
Interest on Investments and Premium on Loans ..	"	"	"	"
Grants and Contributions from Government	11	280	25250	10
Do. from Local Boards	1075	1775	1775	1075
Do. from other Bodies	"	"	"	"
Recoveries for services to private individuals	1169	1300	1275	1289
Miscellaneous	118	148	949	939
Loans	"	"	"	"
Sale-proceeds of Government Securities, &c., Realizations of Sinking Fund, and Discount on Investments ..	"	"	"	"
Advances Recovered	1560	"	46	136
Total ..	38786	40100	67571	41332
Grand Total ..	44881	44400	71600	45361

5. *General Remarks.*—The year closed with a balance of Rs. 5,004 or 12·1 per cent. of the current receipts.

Except in regard to the registration of births, the administration of the Municipality during the year under review continued to be fairly satisfactory.

(True Extract.)

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Chairman, Municipal Council, Tuticorin.
" Collector of Tinnevelly.
" President, District Board, Tinnevelly.
" Accountant-General.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" Surgeon-General.
" Sanitary Board.
" " Commissioner.
" " Engineer.
Editors' Table.

Charges.	Actuals, 1897-98.	Budget. Estimate, 1898-99.	Revised Estimate, 1898-99.	Actuals 1898-99.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
GRANT 1.				
New Works—				
Communications	2	700	700	331
Buildings	151	200	1670	735
Drainage	256	"	60	54
Water-supply	"	"	70	63
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	"	"	"	"
Repairs—				
Communications	5640	5250	5250	5881
Buildings	744	870	680	600
Drainage	361	262	240	229
Water-supply	1178	1286	1570	1467
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	"	90	"	"
Establishment	499	500	490	493
Tools and Plant and other Stores	13	50	50	103
Contributions for Public Works	"	"	"	"
Total	8844	9120	10780	9595
GRANT 2.				
Training Schools	19	120	"	"
Municipal Schools—				
(*a*) On the Salary System	"	"	"	"
(*b*) On the Salary Result System	518	530	490	492
Grants-in-Aid—				
(*a*) Salary Grants	"	"	"	"
(*b*) Fixed and Result Grants	2490	2500	2500	2499
(*c*) Building, Furniture, &c., Grants	15	200	200	167
Inspection	60	60	60	60
Miscellaneous	404	600	600	516
	389	400	401	
Total	3491	3810	3650	3567
GRANT 3.				
Hospitals and Dispensaries	6278	6800	6800	6214
Contributions	353	330	330	373
Vaccination	382	350	350	397
Registration of Births and Deaths	275	250	250	255
Sanitation	13500	13870	15180	13066
Total	20788	21600	22910	20305
GRANT 4.				
Lighting	2480	2500	2500	2595
Markets and Slaughter-houses	6	"	"	"
Choultries	39	70	70	60
Travellers' Bungalows	"	"	"	"
Avenues	56	80	70	61
Public Garden, Survey of Land, Fire, Pounds and other Charges.	2134	900	1390	1250
Total	4735	3550	4030	3966
GRANT 5.				
Supervision and Management	2854	3970	2700	2891
EXTRAORDINARY AND DEBT.				
Repayment of Debt	"	"	"	"
Interest on Loan	"	"	"	"
Advances Recoverable	"	"	"	"
Refunds	136	"	"	30
Discount	4	"	30	3
Pensions and Gratuities	"	"	"	"
Investments	"	"	"	"
Total	140	-	30	33
Grand Total	40852	42050	44100	40357
Balance	4029	2350	27500	5004

of the latter tax are more than five years old and should be revised in the current year.

(2) The collections under the principal taxes improved, and were good except in the case of the arrears under the tax on carts.

(3) The receipts from the taxes on vehicles, animals and carts, tolls, license fees and fines showed an gratifying advance; while both those from the sale of medicines fell off, the decline being ascribed to the opening of two private shops in the town for dispensing medicines.

(4) It is satisfactory to observe that there was an increase of 149 in the number of horses served by the private scavenging agency and of Rs 120 in the fees levied on this account. The cost of this service, excluding the expenditure incurred on account of carts and bullocks, which was included under general conservancy charges and not exhibited separately

Para. 18. of report.

Para 25.

4 proper portion of

Para. 25 of report

separately in the accounts, amoun- of Rs 840 and was more than covered by the receipts. The expenditure incurred on account of carts & bullocks should in future be debited to this head. This system is now adopted by only 19 per. cent of the number of houses assessed to the tax on buildings, there is still ample scope for its extension, and the Municipal Council should try to extend it as widely as possible

4. Expenditure (1) Public works -

No new work of importance was undertaken during the year. The outlay on communications amounted to Rs 3,285 or 44·5 per. cent of the net Municipal income from tolls against the minimum of 50 per. cent prescribed by government, the short expenditure being due to a portion of the allotment under this head having been utilized for plague charges. The Revenue Divisional of

Para. 29.

Para. 5 of Sub-Collr's endt. 9

however, reports that the streets were well looked after and that they were in good condition.

(2) Education. The net expenditure on Education amounted to Rs 3587 or 10·3 per cent of the receipts from taxation. Of this sum, Rs 2987 were spent on primary, and the remainder on secondary, education. As in the previous year, the municipal Council maintained two primary schools on the salary-wealth system, of which one was for Muhammadans and the other for Pauchámas, and aided three secondary and ten primary schools with result grants. The attendance at the aided schools improved, but that at the municipal schools was almost the same as in the previous year. The results of the departmental and grant examinations were however, fair and the allotment for result grants was almost fully utilized. The total number of boys under instruction in the municipal and aided schools rose from 1021 or 49·6 per cent of the male population of school-going age to 1188 or 57·8 per cent — a satisfactory advance.

(3) Medical Relief. The number of in-patients treated in the municipal hospital fell from 478 to 454, but that of out-patients rose, being 1309 against 1087 in 1897-98. The increase in the latter case has not been explained — an omission which should now be supplied. The midwife employed by the Council attended 89 cases of labour or only one more than in the previous year. This is a poor out-turn and she should be required to do better work in the current year.

(4) Vaccination and Vital Statistics. The total number of vaccinations performed during the year rose from 1317 to 1352 and the per-centage of reported success was

99.0 against 97.6 in 1897-98.
Infantile vaccination also showed
an advance, the number of children
under one year successfully vaccina-
-ted being 637 or 25.4 per mille of
the population against 534 or 21.3
per mille in the previous year and a
reprished birth rate of 33.3 per mille.
There was an increase in the
numbers of births and deaths re-
-gistered during the year, and the death-
-rate exceeded the normal, owing
to the prevalence of Cholera in the
town for the registration of birth returns
were, however, still incomplete, the
rate recorded being much below the
normal. Every effort should be made to
render these returns more accurate.
(5) Sanitation. The outlay under
this head amounted to Rs 13632 or
98.3 per cent of the allotment &
was 33.0 per cent of the current
receipts. The Civil Apothecary re-
-ports that the sanitation of
the town was fairly good; but
as Cholera was prevalent in the
town for the fourth year in
succession and caused as many as
121 deaths it is evident that this branch of
the administration still demands careful
attention, and the Municipal Council
should not rest contented until all
the defects pointed out from time
to time by the Sanitary Officers have
been remedied. The closure of the
Roman Catholic burial ground, referred
to in para. 52 of the Chairman's report
has been sanctioned in Govt. yb4 &c.
dated 10th July 1899.

5. General Remarks. The year closed
with a balance of Rs 5004 or 12.1 per
cent of the current receipts.

Except in regard to the registration
of births, the administration of
the Municipality during the year
under review continued to be fairly
satisfactory.

V.R.
27/7/99

1. VIII 99.

Para. 1 of Medical report.

Para 3 of medical report.

Para. 1 of "

To The Chairman. M.C. & Inticorin.
" " Collector & Tinnevelly.
" " Asstt. Surgeon & Dy. Sanitary Commr. S.
" " Asstt. General & Public Instruction
" " Surgeon General
Sanitary Board
Engineer
Dupt. P.W.D.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Government {1899} of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd.

Regd. } 1899.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 1100 M., 4th August 1899.

AUGUST.

Administration Report.

Reviewing the — of the Tuticorin Municipal Council for 1898-99.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper :—

From G. ZELLWEGER, Esq., Chairman, Municipal Council, Tuticorin, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated 9th June 1899, No. 174.

I have the honour to submit the administration report on the working of this municipality for the financial year 1898–99 with the usual statements noted below :—

(1) Statement of receipts and charges.
(2) Statement on the progress of education of males.
(3) Statement on the progress of education of females.
(4) Concise medical report.
(5) Copy of the resolution of the Council.

I.—Constitution of the Council.

2. The office of Chairman was held by the undersigned during the year under report.

There were two elective seats vacant during the year in the second and third wards which were duly filled up uncontested. The Council had its full complement of sixteen members on the 31st March 1899. Seventeen meetings were held by the Council during the year against 22 in the previous year with an average attendance, at each meeting, of 0·53 official and 8·29 non-official, against 0·86 official and 8·86 non-official in the previous year. No meeting was adjourned for want of a quorum.

II.—Receipts.

3. The total receipts of the year, including the opening balance of Rs. 4,030, were Rs. 45,361 and the expenditure during the year was Rs. 40,357, leaving a balance of Rs. 5,004 at the end of the year. Of the total receipts of Rs. 41,332, Rs. 34,377 were derived from rates and taxes and the remaining sum of Rs. 6,955 from other sources. The year compares favourably with the last year, there having been Rs. 2,546 more than the receipts of the last year, which is mainly ascribed to the increased realization under rates and taxes.

A.—Rates from Taxation.

4. *Tax on Arts, &c.*—This tax was, as usual, revised during the year with careful scrutiny and levied on all the nine classes of the schedule. The net demand was Rs. 6,369 after reduction of Rs. 269 made by the Council on appeal. Rs. 6,010 were collected with a balance of Rs. 188 left at the end of the year. Rs. 171 were written off as irrecoverable. The number of appeals received against the assessment was 145 for Rs. 801, of which Rs. 269 were remitted by the Council in 97 cases and Rs. 327 confirmed in 46 cases; two appeals involving Rs. 16–8–0 are pending disposal.

There is a decrease of Rs. 280 in the net demand of the year under report as compared with that of the last year which is mainly due to the South Indian Railway Company not having been assessed during the year under G.O., Mis. No. 1201 M., dated 6th July 1898. The balance left was only Rs. 188 which is comparatively very little and Rs. 52 of this sum have been since collected.

5. Of the arrear demand of Rs. 1,065, Rs. 611 were collected and Rs. 280 written off with a balance of Rs. 175 left. The writes-off include Rs. 100 imposed upon the South Indian Railway Company.

6. *Tax on Buildings.*—This tax was revised last in 1894–95 with a few additions to, and extensions of, the old taxes which had been brought to book. The gross demand under this tax was Rs. 13,218, of which Rs. 9 were remitted on appeal. The net demand was, therefore, Rs. 13,209, of which Rs. 13,152 were collected against Rs. 12,778 in the previous year, leaving a balance of Rs. 25 after striking off the account Rs. 30. Rs. 2 were remitted on account of vacant houses. The appeals entertained against the assessment of this tax were nine in number involving a sum of Rs. 38, of which Rs. 9 were reduced in seven cases and Rs. 3 confirmed in two cases. The number of buildings assessed to this tax was 6,570 excludiug 190 buildings which were exempted from taxation, being mere huts, temples, &c., excepted in section 63 (1 and 5) of the Act.

7. The incidence of house-tax on the net demand has again risen during the year from Rs. 1–5–10 to Rs. 2–0–2, which is the result of the increased number of buildings.

8. Of the arrear demand of Rs. 84, Rs. 73 were collected with Rs. 3 left outstanding at the end of the year and Rs. 8 written off as irrecoverable.

9. *Tax on Lands.*—The net demand of this tax was Rs. 222 after a remission on appeal of Re. 1. Of this, Rs. 215 were collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 3. Rs. 3 were written off as the land has been built upon and building-tax imposed on same.

10. Under arrears of this tax Rs. 9 were collected and Rs. 4 struck off the account as irrecoverable.

11. *Taxes on Vehicles with Springs and Animals.*—The usual maximum rates were in operation here. The gross demands were Rs. 491 and Rs. 930 with remission of Re. 1 granted by the Council against the tax on animals. Rs. 436 and Rs. 812 were collected, respectively, with balances of Rs. 46 and Rs. 97 left outstanding at the close of the year. Rs. 9 and Rs. 20 were written off as irrecoverable. Here also increase is shown to the extent of Rs. 52 and Rs. 55, respectively, over the actuals of the previous year.

12. *Tax on Carts without Springs.*—This tax was levied at Rs. 4 per cart per annum and the net demand was Rs. 1,112 without any appeal. Rs 1,036 were collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 62 at the end of the year. Rs. 14 were written off as irrecoverable.

13. *Cœrcive Process.*—The number of warrants issued during the year was 1,461 for Rs. 2,713 against 1,092 warrants in the last year for Rs. 2,281. The warrants that remained unexecuted at the beginning of the year were 689 for Rs. 1,234. The total number was, therefore, 2,150 involving an aggregate sum of Rs. 3,947. Of this, 1,879 warrants were executed and cancelled to the extent of Rs. 3,341. Rs. 8 were realized on distraint in three cases; but in no case was the property sold.

14. *Tolls.*—The full amount of revenue from the three toll-gates, viz., Rs. 17,825 for which they were farmed out was realized during the year and credited to this head, deducting one-third share paid to the District Board. There is an increase of Rs. 1,325 under this head which was the result of competition at the time of sale of to'

15. *Incidence of Taxation.*—The average incidence per head of the population, according to the last census, was Rs. 1–5–11 with, and As. 14–4 without, tolls against Rs. 1–4–2 and As. 13–1, respectively, in the last year. Thus it will be seen that there has been gradual increase year after year under the several items of taxation.

B.—Miscellaneous Receipts.

16. *Produce of Garden.*—Under this head Rs. 82 were realized by the sale of produce against Rs. 144 in the year before. The cause for the decrease has been already explained in paragraph 3 of my letter, dated 19th January 1899, No. 25, embodied in G.O., No. 360 M., dated 14th March 1899, reviewing budget of this

municipality. It is, however, hoped that the garden may be made to stand by itself as other seedlings have begun to yield. The well in the garden is largely used by people in the town.

17. *Conservancy Receipts.*—Rs. 60 were realized by the sale of the droppings of the municipal bullocks against Rs. 20 in the last year.

With reference to paragraph 3 (3) of G.O., No. 1588 M., dated 9th September 1898, I beg to report that unlike other places there are no paddy fields in the vicinity of the town which could utilize for manuring purposes, the sweepings of the town and the cartage hire of the same to the vicinity of the "Korampallam" tank situated 4 miles off the town is rather prohibitive and not worth paying. There are no offers for sweepings to be deposited in the gardens of the town even at 1 anna per cart-load.

18. *Sale-proceeds and Composition Fee of Medicines, &c.*—Rs. 628 only were realized from this source against Rs. 1,310 in the last year. This is composed of medicines compounded in the hospital and fees from out-patients. The income has again fallen down this year for the reasons stated in the concluding sentence of paragraph 19 of my last year's administration report. Two chemist shops have been opened in the town where prescriptions are dispensed under the supervision of the Colonial Assistant Surgeon of Ceylon who is stationed here on plague duty.

19. *Income from the Slaughter-house.*—The full amount of Rs. 340 for which this had been leased out was realized during the year, and the sum of Rs. 36 was the amount recovered from the civil action taken against the defaulting contractor of 1897-98, referred to in paragraph 30 of the last year's administration report.

20. *Warrant Fees.*—Rs. 178 were realized from this source against Rs. 54 in the last year. The increase is due to the larger number of warrants executed during the year.

21. *License Fees.*—Rs. 628 were recovered from this item against Rs. 449 in the last year. The increase was due to the close supervision and booking of the materials lodged in the streets, from which alone Rs. 212 were levied.

22. *Fines under Municipal and other Acts.*—The sum of Rs. 1,354 levied during the year by the second-class Magistrate was in excess of the last year's realization by Rs. 634. This is the result of deterrent fines imposed in cases which also have increased in number.

23. *Grants and Contributions from Government on account of Education.*—As usual, no student was sent up for training and hence no receipts against normal stipends. The only income of Rs. 10 was the grant earned by the pupils of salary-result Panchama and Muhammadan schools under the management of the municipality.

24. The Local Fund contribution of Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 75 were, as usual, received from the Tuticorin Taluk Board on account of one-fourth the net cost of the dispensary and maintenance of the municipal chattram at Mélúr. A sum of Rs. 1,020 is yet due from the Taluk Board and is shown in note to statement II.

25. *Miscellaneous—Private Scavenging Fees.*—Rs. 1,290 have been realized from this item against Rs. 1,169 in the last year. It is admitted that there is still much scope for extension of the system for which no pains are being spared, but which can only be gradually accomplished. As observed by Government in paragraph 3 (4) of Government Order reviewing the last year's administration report, this service is not intended to be a source of profit to the Council. The expenditure incurred for the carts and bullocks maintained for the service is mixed up with Grant 3 (5) (*a*) (ii), and not proportionately debited to (5) (*b*) (ii).

The number of houses served by private scavenging agency was, on the 31st March 1899, 1,257 against 1,108 in the last year. The system of collecting fees in advance is being enforced as far as possible and will receive renewed attention.

26. *Refunds of Expenditure of previous years.*—Rs. 803 shown here was the amount recovered from Government as refund of pay disbursed to the Military Assistant Surgeon referred to in paragraph 37 of the administration report of 1896-97.

27. *Other items.*—The sum of Rs. 111-9-0 herein referred to consisted of Rs. 105, being interest which accrued from the fixed deposit amount invested in the Bank and Rs. 6-9-0, being sale-proceeds of Act books.

Advances.—The sum of Rs. 136 was the amount made up of Rs. 90 refunded by the civil apothecary to whom it was advanced, and Rs. 46 adjusted on account of repair of drain within the premises of the South Indian Railway.

III.—EXPENDITURE.

28. The total expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 40,357 against Rs. 40,852 in the previous year, with a small decrease of Rs. 495 which will be explained below where necessary.

29. *Grant 1, Communications.*—No new works were undertaken during the year as the provision made in the budget has been transferred to plague expenditure under G.O., Mis. No. 2164 M., dated 15th December 1898.

30. Under *Repairs*, Rs. 5,851 were spent as shown in Part II, statement II-A. This includes Rs. 202, being compensation paid to the owner of a bit of land which was acquired for widening a portion of a street. Rs. 566 spent for watering some of the roads which were cut up by heavy traffic and Rs. 129 expended towards the construction of tunnels at some parts of certain streets. All the roads were kept in good order by constant attention to their upkeep and the side roads were also carefully looked after.

31. *Buildings.*—As already reported in paragraph 33 of the last year's administration report, two open latrines on dry earth system have been constructed within the railway station compound on Rs. 200 and eighteen moveable metal dust-bins have been purchased for Rs. 192. The hospital assistant's house has been provided with a compound wall at a cost of Rs. 170. A portion of new cholera ward has been constructed at a cost of Rs. 173. The provision of Rs. 600 made for the construction of a building for the Panchama school was also transferred to plague charges. Another latrine of double compartment will be constructed during the current year within the station-compound, as a site has been obtained from the Railway Company.

32. Under *Repairs*, Rs. 600 were spent as detailed in statement II-A, Part II—Repairs. The thatched roof of the front house of the choultry at Mélúr was replaced with tiles at a cost of Rs. 269. The other repairs are minor ones calling for no special remark.

33. *Drainage.*—A small drain was built in Kaliappa Pillai street at a cost of Rs. 25 so as to connect the one already in existence with the big drain within the railway station compound. The remaining sum of Rs. 29 under new works was the cost of stones purchased for constructing a drain along the railway compound wall so as to carry the spilt water from the well in chattram street.

Under *Repairs*, Rs. 87 were spent in repairing the drain on the great cotton road and in other petty repairs.

34. *Water-supply.*—With a view to sink another well near the fresh water-supply channel, for supply of good water to the town, some sand stones were purchased at a cost of Rs. 63 and, before the work was taken in hand, the fresh water channel had received its supply from the tank and the proposal had, therefore, to be postponed. The sum of Rs. 1,195 consisted of Rs. 384, being water charge paid to Government, Rs. 425, being the cost of providing platforms, &c., to the existing wells, Rs. 320, being the amount laid out in the springs dug when the water-supply failed and in their upkeep, and Rs. 66 in sundry repairs. There were four watchmen for guarding the water-supply from pollution and their wages amounted to Rs. 272. They had also to look after the temporary springs when the supply of water in the channel failed. The usual supply of Korampallam tank failed during the year on the 11th April and did not begin again until 30th October 1898. During this interim [illegible] was supplied from the temporary springs dug along the fresh water-supply channel and in various other places; also, from the nine pasuparai wells and springs dug thereabout. The springs were watched over by special temporary watchmen who were

to remove also the silt in them ; but, of course, such springs were not of substantial nature, being dug in loose sand, and had to be replaced very frequently by fresh ones.

The Council feel extremely thankful to Government for the kindness displayed in sanctioning the water-supply scheme and in making grants and loan from Government so as to meet the expenditure and respectfully trusts that the scheme will receive its continued attention and will be taken in hand as early as possible.

35. The other items under the grant are only normal.

36. *Grant 2, Education.*—No student was sent up for training and consequently no expenditure was incurred. The two salary-result schools—one for Muhammadans and the other for Panchamas—continued under the management of the Council at a cost of Rs. 493 against the revised estimate of Rs. 490. The charges are, as usual, and do not require any explanation.

37. The Panchama school worked with 32 boys and 4 girls with an average attendance of 29 pupils against 31 boys and 6 girls with an average attendance of 34 in the previous year. While the Muhammadan school worked with 46 boys and 12 girls with an average attendance of 50 against 40 boys and 16 girls with an average attendance of 51 in the last year.

38. *Fixed and Result Grants.*—Seven hundred and eighteen pupils were presented for examination for the grant from the three lower secondary and ten primary schools in the town against 676 pupils in the previous year ; of these 590 pupils were found qualified for grants and earned Rs. 3,179 ; but the amount disbursed to the managers of the various schools, where they have been taught, was Rs. 2,499 according to the certifying memoranda issued.

39. The results of examination are said to be fair. Out of three teachers employed in the municipal salary-result schools, two hold trained certificates and the other is an untrained man. The number of teachers in the aided schools has been 49, of whom only 14 hold trained certificates and 14 possess untrained certificates, while 9 others hold educational certificates and 7 are entirely unqualified. Five teachers have become qualified by length of service.

40. Rs. 60, being the usual contribution towards inspection, were paid to the District Board.

41. The other items need no explanation except under miscellaneous, under which Rs. 107 were spent on account of furniture to S.P.G. schools against the revised estimate of Rs. 200.

42. The total expenditure under the grant was Rs. 3,567 against Rs. 3,650 in the revised estimate. The non-utilization of the provision for normal stipends accounts for the decrease under the estimate.

43. *Grant 3, Hospitals and Dispensaries.*—Under establishment, there was a decrease of Rs. 240 under the estimate, which was due to the posting of a civil apothecary of third grade, while the provision was for one of second grade. There was also decrease under "Medicines" to the extent of Rs. 545 below the revised estimate, and this was owing to some of the medicines which were found wanting and for which orders had been sent to Bombay not having been received within the year. The amount spent includes Rs. 929 paid to Messrs. Burgoyne Burbidgs & Co., through the Accountant-General, who purchased draft ; Rs. 252, being the cost of quinine and febrifuge supplied from Government Cinchona Department, Nilgiris ; and Rs. 135, being the cost of tinctures supplied from Medical Stores, Madras. The sum of Rs. 28 shown under I (*e*) was the contribution paid to the District Board on account of the services of a clerk employed in the office of the District Medical and Sanitary officer, Tinnevelly. The midwife conducted 89 labour cases in the town during the year against 88 in the last year. She was absent on leave for six months and a substitute was appointed in her place. Her work was supervised as usual by the civil apothecary. She is paid at Rs. 12 a month besides remuneration paid by results.

44. Four hundred and fifty-four in and 13,091 out patients got treated in the dispensary against 478 in and 10,987 out patients in the previous year, with a slight

increase in the daily attendance over the last year. The recommendations of the Surgeon-General and other inspecting officers with reference to the requirements of the hospital will be complied with as funds become available. They are now being supplied one after another. The present cholera ward within hospital compound will be used as venereal ward as soon as the cholera ward building which is being erected elsewhere is opened. Twenty iron cots procured for plague sheds are now in use in the hospital, where they have proved a great improvement on the old wooden cots.

45. *Vaccination.*—This department is worked by a first-class vaccinator on Rupees 15 and a peon on Rs. 5 a month and the work is supervised by the apothecary. The vaccine depot is situated in the hospital premises. The amount expended during the year under this head was Rs. 397 against Rs. 382 in the previous year. The slight increase was due to the supply of forms locally printed. Animal lymph alone was used and the calves were hired then and there by the vaccinator himself and the hire was paid to the owner of the calves by the apothecary. The vaccinator returned during the year 1,314 cases with 1,301 successful and thirteen unsuccessful, while the medical subordinates vaccinated thirty-eight cases and all of them were successful. The results are satisfactory although there is no perceptible improvement in the quantity of work as compared with last year when he had turned out 1,280 cases. The results were mostly verified by the apothecary and two hospital assistants. Six hundred and forty-five children were vaccinated under one year of age with a result of 637 successful against 554 in the previous year. This is an improvement. The average cost of each successful case has been As. 4–10 against As. 4–8½ in the year before. The slight increase was due to the cost of books, forms, &c., printed locally. Ninety-eight persons were prosecuted for failure to get vaccinated, with conviction secured in all cases.

46. *Registration of Births and Deaths.*—The pay of the registrar amounted to Rs. 240 at Rs. 20 a month and contingencies cost Rs. 15 for registers, certificates and return forms. As usual, the registration is compulsory and recorded in the office by the people concerned. Any omission in the reports of birth and death found out by the registrar who goes about the town almost daily and by the conservancy inspectors and ward peons is noted and dealt with according to law. Nine hundred and fourteen deaths and 835 births, still-born excepted, were returned during the year against 878 and 731, respectively, in the last year. The record of births may be said to be improving. Fifty-three persons have been prosecuted during the year, thirty-nine for default of furnishing report of births and fourteen for deaths against ten and two, respectively, in the last year. Of the total number of deaths recorded, 208 died under one year of age and 132 above 60 and the remaining 574 in all other ages. One hundred and twenty-one died of cholera, 1 of small-pox and 158 from fever and the rest from other causes.

47. Cholera broke out in the town during the year in a sporadic form during the months of April, May, June and August 1898 carrying away 121 victims, against 207 attacks and 248 deaths in the last year. As usual, timely precautionary steps were resorted to.

Observation and preventive staff was employed in accordance with instructions conveyed in G.O., No. 1536, dated 9th September 1896. The hospital assistant attached to the Port Department was placed on special cholera duty with a jutka at his disposal. He was assisted by a certificated sanitary inspector and an inspector who has had training in the sanitary class attached to the Medical College, Madras. Extra scavengers were also employed for disinfection of infected quarters, and the arrangement made for same was inspected at the time by the District Medical and Sanitary officer and approved of by him. As a result of this, the disease was stamped out. In a few cases the infected huts, where the disease seemed to have taken a permanent hold, were burnt and the owners of those places compensated.

48. The District Medical and Sanitary officer's report that the town was on the whole healthy, is accompanying.

49. *Conservancy.*—The establishment charges amounted to Rs. 4,834 against the revised estimate of Rs. 5,140. The establishment consisted of one certificated sanitary inspector, two other inspectors, one of whom has been trained, five ward peons,