GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From W. E. SCHMIDT, Esq., Chairman, Municipal Council, Ootacamund, to the Chief Secretary to Government (through the Collector of Nílgiris), dated Ootacamund, 15th May 1887, No. 417.

I have the honor to submit the following reports and statements in connection with the administration of the Ootacamund Municipality for the year 1886-87 :—

I. The prescribed Statements I to VI with Appendices.
II. Copy of the Report of the Deputy Inspector of Schools.
III. Copy of the Report of the Senior Medical Officer.

2. Including the opening balance of Rs. 4,550-9-8, the total receipts of the year amount to Rs. 92,877-7-0 and the expenditure to Rs. 67,979-14-6, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 24,897-8-6 which is exclusive of deposits, and is made up as follows :—

	RS.	A.	P.
Municipal cash balance proper	14,676	4	9
Municipal market loan balance, for which sum the Bank of Madras gave the municipal council credit on the 31st March 1887	10,221	3	9
Total	24,897	8	6

3. The total receipts from taxation amount to Rs. 39,734-7-1, against an estimate of Rs. 36,840 and Rs. 31,872 the actuals of the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 2,894-7-1 over the revised estimate figures. The actuals of the last three years are as follows :—

	RS.	A.	P.
1884-85	32,067	0	0
1885-86	31,872	0	0
1886-87	39,734	0	0

(*a*) *Rates on Houses and Lands.*—

Revised estimate, 1886-87	27,360	0	0
Actuals, 1886-87	30,667	7	1
Increase over estimate ..	3,307	7	1

The actuals of the last three years are as follows :—

	RS.	A.	P.
1884-85	23,411	0	0
1885-86	23,146	0	0
1886-87	30,667	0	0

It will be noticed that the current collections on account of houses and lands are Rs. 22,783-2-11 and Rs. 3,189-11-0, respectively, which far exceed the collections of any previous years.

(*b*) *Tax on Arts.*—

	RS.	A.	P.
Revised estimate, 1886-87	4,970	0	0
Actuals, 1886-87	4,566	12	0
Decrease under estimate ..	403	4	0

The actuals of the past three years are as follows :—

	Rs.
1884-85	4,402
1885-86	4,178
1886-87	4,567

The increase under this head is due to improved collections.

(*c*) *Tax on Vehicles and Animals.*—

	Rs.
Estimate for 1886-87	3,700
Actuals for „	3,521
Decrease under estimate ..	179

The actuals of the past three years are as follows :—

	Rs.
1884-85	3,407
1885-86	3,572
1886-87	3,521

4. *Contributions from Provincial Funds.*—The total receipts under this head amount to Rs. 18,723-13-3, of which Rs. 12,000 were for the annual contribution on account of extra charges for *conservancy*, sanctioned in G.O., No. 347 F., dated 28th April 1886; Rs. 4,700 for the maintenance of station roads, sanctioned in G.O., No. 1830 F., dated 8th August 1884; Rs. 1,000 for improvements to Hobart Park, sanctioned in G.O., No. 24 F., dated 9th January 1885; Rs. 120 being the annual contribution for the upkeep of the Agraharam chattram, sanctioned in G.O., No. 446 F., dated 25th February 1884; two further sums of Rs. 617-13-3 and Rs. 286 were received from the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, for the completion of the improvement to the Commercial road and for sinking a well on Lower bazaar road.

5. *Income from Markets.*—The total income derived from the market amounted to Rs. 7,186-8-2, against Rs. 7,010 the provision in the revised estimate, and Rs. 4,413 the actuals of the previous year. The amount realised from market stall rents is Rs. 3,911-14-0. The increase over the previous year's collections is due to stall rents being collected for five months only in the previous year, from November 1885, the date of completion of the market buildings.

6. *Rent of other Buildings.*—The income derived from this source amounted to Rs. 5,254-11-6, against Rs. 5,240 provided in the revised estimate, and Rs. 5,721 the actuals of the previous year. The slight increase over the estimate calls for no special remarks; while the decrease under the previous year's figures has already been explained to Government in paragraph II of letter of Collector to the Chief Secretary to Government, No. 13, dated 27th January 1887, and is the result of the small amounts bid for the bandy-stand and slaughter-house tolls at the anual auction sales.

7. *Payments for Municipal Services.*—The income from this source of revenue amounted to Rs. 4,968-3-0, against a revised estimate provision of Rs. 4,800 and Rs. 4,682 the actuals of the previous year. The increase is due to improved collections.

8. *Miscellaneous.*—The receipts under this head amount to Rs. 1,451-8-4, which sum is made up as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Sale of poudrette	369	0	0
Sale of measures	21	12	0
Sale of old tools and plant	71	4	9
Sale of Acts and Bye-laws	3	12	0
Certain unadjusted deposits accruing for several years transferred from deposit account and petty receipts	985	11	7
Total ..	1,451	8	4

9. *Loans.*—The amount received under this head on account of the new market supplemental loan of Rs. 10,000, sanctioned in G.O., No. 1033 M., dated 9th October 1886, was Rs. 9,907.

10. *Expenditure—Grant I, Public Works—New Works, &c.*—The total expenditure under this grant was Rs. 23,956-4-0, against a revised estimate of Rs. 34,890 and the actuals of the previous year Rs. 56,281. The decrease is owing to the balance due on account of the construction of the new market buildings not having been paid during the year, owing to the market contractors not submitting bills in accordance with the terms of the contract, and to small savings under the several minor heads of this grant. Under New Works, Miscellaneous, a sum of Rs. 3,192-13-1 was spent; Rs. 1,000 of which was contributed towards certain improvements to the Hobart Park on which the new Race-course is being constructed, and the balance on the improvement to the bandy-stand. The expenditure under "Repairs—Communications," was Rs. 13,441-0-1, and is distributed as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
(*a*) Station roads	4,689	3	4
(*b*) Municipal main roads	7,264	12	4
(*c*) Bridle roads	1,487	0	5
Total ..	13,441	0	1

The several other heads under this grant call for no special remarks.

11 *Grant II, Education.*—The expenditure under this grant amounted to Rs. 1,784-12-7, against the revised estimate provision of Rs. 2,220 and the actuals of the previous year Rs. 1,665.

Under "Salary Grants" Rs. 1,047 were paid against Rs. 997 the actuals of the previous year; an increase of Rs. 22-8-0 was allowed to the Roman Catholic boys' school by the municipal council. (*Vide* their Proceedings, No. V, dated 18th November 1886.) This school is a large and growing institution, and disseminates education amongst the poorest classes of natives in Ootacamund. The total amount of results grants earned was Rs. 313-8-0, against Rs. 334 the actuals of the previous year. A sum of Rs. 167-4-7 was spent on the Old Ootacamund school, which is maintained on the combined system.

12. *Grant III, Sanitation and Medical Services.*—The total expenditure under this grant is Rs. 22,527-6-5, against a revised estimate provision of Rs. 22,830 and Rs. 25,344-4-4 the actuals of the previous year.

The usual contribution of Rs. 500 was given to St. Bartholomew's hospital, and a summary of the working of this institution, as furnished by the medical officer of the station, is given below :—

(1) Average daily number of persons aided during 1886-87, *i.e.*, old and new cases attending or present in the hospital			70·40
(2) Number aided in the year—			
(*a*) Number of old patients continuing under treatment from the previous year			87
(*b*) Number of new admissions during the year			13,306
(3) Income—			
(*a*) From Government	Rs.	1,814 15	6
(*b*) Endowment—			
In land	„	..	
In money	„	..	
(*c*) Subscriptions and donations	„	3,006 15	1
(4) Nature of relief afforded—			
(*a*) In-door	No.		712
(*b*) Out-door	„		12,681
Total ..			13,393

Rupees 19, 243, and 243 were paid on account of the Reserve Medical staff, Medical College, and Sanitary inspection, respectively.

The expenditure under Vaccination and Registration of Rupees 292-9-5 and Rs. 170-3-7, respectively, remains the same as in the previous year. The cost of conservancy establishment amounted to Rs. 14,436-6-4, against Rs.14,557-1-5 the actuals of the previous year, and the decrease is due to small reduction being made during the off-season. Under Sanitary Service the expenditure amounted to Rs. 5,687-0-11, against Rs. 8,033-1-2 the actuals of the previous year. The saving under this head is due to economy being observed in the feeding of the conservancy cattle. The other items under this grant call for no special remarks.

13. *Grant IV, Miscellaneous.*—The total expenditure under this grant amounted to Rs. 6,427-4-2, against a revised estimate provision of Rs. 6,320 and Rs. 6,394-15-0 the actuals of the previous year. The expenditure under this grant calls for no special remarks.

14. *Grant V, General Establishment.*—The total expenditure under this grant amounted to Rs. 6,883-7-9, against a revised estimate provision of Rs. 6,960 and Rs. 6,199-7-11 the actuals of the previous year. The increase under this grant over the previous year's expenditure is due to the appointment of a secretary sanctioned in G.O., No. 374 M.F., dated 8th August 1885.

15. A sum of Rs. 614-7-10 was repaid to Government during the year, being the annual instalment due on account of the loan of Rs. 12,420, sanctioned by Government in their order, No. 1761, Financial Department, dated 3rd September 1875; and a further sum of Rs. 255-10-10, being the interest due upon the above loan at 4 per cent. In addition to the above, Rs. 3,000 were disbursed on account of interest, at 6 per cent., upon Rs. 50,000 the amount of municipal debentures; the loan having been sanctioned by Government in their order, No. 1992, dated 27th August 1884, Financial. A sum of Rs. 1,000 was invested in the Bank of Madras 4 per cent. fixed deposits. This sum is the second instalment (2 per cent. of the aggregate loan) for the liquidation of Rs. 50,000 in thirty years. The amount to the credit of the Sinking fund is now Rs. 2,040, as shown in note to statement II.

16. *Refunds.*—The total expenditure under this head amounted to Rs. 1,073-15-11, against Rs. 1,284 the actuals of the previous year, and Rs. 2,765-9-6 the expenditure in 1884-85. They were chiefly granted under section 72 of Act IV of 1884 for the vacancy of houses.

17. The number of members on the council was 15 instead of 16, owing to the resignation of Major A. C. Smith, the Executive Engineer, on his transfer from the district. Two other vacancies occurred, viz., that of Messrs. Abraham and Wapshore, their period of service as councillors having expired. The draft election rules embodied in G.O., No. 549 M., dated 11th June 1886, are to be put in force. An election of the two councillors will be held on the 19th instant, the result of which will be duly communicated to Government. The council was composed of the following proportions:—

Officials	4	Europeans	10
Non-officials	12	Natives	6

The number of meetings held during the year was twenty-seven, and the average attendance at each meeting is 6·7.

18. Several works of great importance were commenced during the year under review; the principal one being the establishment of a Race-course in the Hobart Park. Such an institution, while affording recreation to a large portion of the community, will benefit in no small measure the trade of the town during a portion of the year. Full particulars regarding this important work have been submitted to Government in my letter, No. 332, dated 26th April 1887, and therefore do not require any further explanation.

A raised footpath is being constructed by the Public Works Department from Charing Cross to the Market. This will add to the convenience of foot-passengers and to the general appearance of the Commercial road. The thanks of the council are due to Government for this.

A large masonry cistern has also been constructed on Jail Hill in connection with the new water scheme, and it is hoped that it will be found useful after certain improvements to the neighbourhood have been effected.

The Public Works Department is also conserving the lower lake by clearing its banks of vegetation, and erecting a neat wire fencing all round the margin. This work was very much needed, and is appreciated both as a sanitary measure and the beauty it adds to that portion of the town. The triangular plot of grass with trees in front of Mr. Boesinger's shop was removed, and the space metalled. This has proved a great advantage, as it now renders the ingress and egress of vehicles to the public library perfectly safe.

The Adam Memorial Fountain is almost complete, and will add materially to the ornamentation of the public offices, in front of which it has been erected.

The council are deeply sensible of the great benefits that will result to the community at large by the completion of the north water-supply scheme. The work is now in active progress, and it is impossible to estimate too highly the value of the work and the liberality of Government in executing it.

The council are anxious to see two great and important works in Ootacamund undertaken. They are—

(1) The piping of the South or Dodabetta water-supply channel; and
(2) The drainage of Kandal.

All information regarding the former is already before Government. The great necessity for the latter cannot be too strongly urged. Kandal is the largest suburb of Ootacamund, and is daily increasing in size and population. It is impossible to maintain thorough cleanliness and enforce sanitary rules with the drainage that exists at present. A proposed system of stone-ware drains will transform this suburb into a healthy locality.

Plan and estimates for this important work are being prepared, and the cost, it is expected, will amount to at least 40,000 rupees. The council will do themselves the honor of again addressing Government on the subject.

The council feel competent to deal with the drainage of the small villages, such as Old Ootacamund, Thalayattimund, Koddappamund, and Vannarapet, from their own revenues. But the drainage of Kandal is quite beyond their present means.

19. It will be observed from the senior medical officer's report that the general health of the municipality during the year was good. A great deal of small-pox, however, was prevalent in the bazaars, and particularly in the village of Kandal, there being no less than forty-two deaths.

Government have been addressed under date 22nd February 1887, No. 121, in view to making vaccination compulsory in this municipality. The birth and death rate statistics are as follows:—

Births.

Months.		Europeans.	East Indians.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Total.
April	1886 ..	1	5	14	6	26
May	,, ..	1	1	26	1	29
June	,, ..	2	11	13	..	26
July	,, ..	1	5	30	3	39
August	,, ..	2	2	17	..	21
September	,, ..	1	..	18	2	21
October	,, ..	1	3	43	1	48
November	,, ..	..	3	25	2	30
December	,, ..	1	1	20	1	23
January	1887 ..	3	3	30	1	37
February	,, ..	..	..	27	..	27
March	,, ..	..	..	28	2	30
	Total ..	13	34	291	19	357

Deaths.

Months.		Small-pox.	Measles.	Fever.	Dysentery.	Diarrhœa.	Cholera.	All other causes.	Total.	Under one year and still-born.	1 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20	20 to 30.	30 to 40.	40 to 50.	50 to 60.	Over 60.
April	1886	..	..	11	3	..	..	11	26	1	4	4	..	1	2	3	4	..	4
May	,,	1	..	19	1	1	..	14	36	7	8	4	..	2	5	2	3	..	2
June	,,	..	..	23	..	..	..	14	37	7	8	1	..	2	5	3	2	..	4
July	,,	..	..	25	..	..	..	20	45	6	12	5	1	2	10	3	2	2	2
August	,,	..	..	13	3	1	..	15	32	6	2	..	..	2	6	1	2	1	2
September	,,	..	..	2	3	3	..	12	22	7	4	..	..	1	3	1	2	1	3
October	,,	..	1	10	..	..	..	25	36	14	6	..	..	2	4	2	2	2	2
November	,,	3	2	11	2	..	..	9	27	13	4	..	..	1	3	2	2	1	1
December	,,	4	..	5	3	1	..	14	26	10	7	3	..	1	2	1	1	1	..
January	1887	10	..	5	1	..	..	13	29	8	7	3	..	2	2	1	1	1	3
February	,,	12	..	8	..	..	..	14	34	15	3	7	..	2	2	2	1	3	1
March	,,	11	..	6	..	..	..	11	27	9	7	4	..	..	5	1	..	2	1
Total	..	42	5	187	16	5	..	172	377	103	72	24	1	14	47	28	25	18	31

Vaccination Return from April 1886 to March 1887.

Months.		Under one year.				One to six.				Above six.				Total.				Result.			
		Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.
April	1886	16	16	..	..	22	21	1	..	21	18	2	1	59	55	3	2	60	55	3	2
May	,,	17	17	..	..	19	18	..	1	20	17	2	1	56	52	2	2	61	51	4	2
June	,,	19	19	..	..	21	19	1	1	13	12	1	..	53	50	2	1	56	52	2	2
July	,,	13	12	1	..	22	20	1	1	19	18	1	..	54	50	2	2	56	51	3	2
August	,,	11	10	1	..	26	24	1	1	18	17	..	1	55	51	2	2	55	51	2	2
September	,,	13	13	..	..	24	23	1	..	17	16	..	1	51	49	1	1	51	49	1	1
October	,,	10	10	..	..	6	6	..	..	26	23	1	2	45	42	2	1	45	49	1	1
November	,,	13	12	1	..	14	13	1	..	5	4	..	1	29	27	1	1	29	30	1	..
December	,,	17	13	2	2	16	16	..	..	10	10	..	..	39	38	1	..	39	42	1	..
January	1887	6	3	..	3	18	14	2	2	6	4	..	2	40	31	3	6	40	32	3	3
February	,,	5	3	..	2	35	33	1	1	4	4	..	..	45	40	2	3	45	42	2	1
March	,,	4	3	1	..	42	38	2	2	4	4	..	..	50	45	3	2	50	51	3	2
	Total	148	138	6	4	266	245	10	11	162	147	5	10	576	530	21	25	614	558	28	28

Months.		Total number of re-vaccinations.	Revaccinated successfully.
April	1886	1	..
May	,,	5	2
June	,,	3	2
July	,,	2	1
August	,,	..	..
September	,,	..	..
October	,,	7	7
November	,,	3	3
December	,,	8	4
January	1887	1	1
February	,,	2	2
March	,,	6	6
	Total	38	28

It will be noticed from the foregoing figures that the birth-rate per mille per annum is 28·8, while the death-rate is 30·49 or 3·39 over last year's. Excluding those deaths which occurred between the ages of 0 to 5 and over 60, the death-rate is reduced to 13·7 per mille. The exceptionally high death-rate this year may be attributed to the prevalence of small-pox which proved most fatal to children. The above figures point out to this conclusion, as omitting the deaths of children under 5, to the number of 175, and of persons over 60, to the number of 31, the death-rate per mille falls from 30·49 to 13·7, which is a decrease under the previous year's death-rate of 2·9 per mille.

20. The revised Ootacamund Municipal Bye-laws are still under the consideration of the council, and will be shortly submitted to Government.

21. The report of the Deputy Inspector of Schools is not embodied in this report, as it has not yet been received. It will be duly forwarded to Government.

22. Government, in their order, No. 354 M., dated 10th April 1886, have directed that the audit of the municipal accounts should be done by the Inspector of Local Fund Accounts. The audit for the year under review has not yet taken place. The audit figures will be submitted in due course.

23. The information and statements called for by Government, in paragraphs 9, 10, 17, 21, 36 and 47, of their order, No. 304 M., Local and Municipal, dated 31st March 1887, are in preparation, and will be duly submitted.

Enclosure.

Sanitary Report of the Municipality of Ootacamund for the official year 1886-87.

The refuse is buried in an open place some three miles out of the town; the sweepings and other inoffensive rubbish is utilised in filling up pits and hollows in various localities. There are within the municipal limits seven villages, viz. Kandal, Kodappamund, Pudumund, Thalayattimund, Vannarapet, Bandy shola, and Manjanacorai, besides the Ootacamund town proper. There are in all 42 pucka-built latrines, and 150 private latrines, which are in a satisfactory condition, and are freely resorted to by the people. They are being daily cleaned and properly attended to. The slaughter-houses are thoroughly cleaned every day, and offensive matters removed and buried. There are for conservancy purposes two sanitary inspectors, four overseers, five maistries, twenty-five drivers and ninety sweepers; besides there are twelve night-soil and fourteen rubbish carts.

2. The quality of water is good, and supply abundant; there being two large reservoirs well conserved, one at Marlimund and the other at Dodabetta. The water from reservoirs is carried in open channels to the villages, houses, hotels, &c., that going to the main bazaar is piped from St. Stephen's Church till it reaches the filtering beds, which supplies three large covered masonry cisterns situated in convenient localities. The filtering beds are renewed periodically. There are a number of wells in private houses used for drinking purposes. The municipality maintain a separate establishment for water purposes, which consists of one inspector and four channel peons, whose duties are to regulate the supply, and keep channels clean.

3. The masonry drains in the bazaar and adjoining streets and alleys are excellent; but they require more frequent flushing. I have inspected these drains often, and it is exceptional to find them not in a very filthy state and smelling badly. The house drainage is as usual left to take care of itself, which it does by running out of a small aperture in the back walls of the houses, and stagnating in a putrid pool. A piped water-supply will shortly be in use here, the pipes having arrived from England, and it may be expected that this will improve the health of the town in every way, not only by giving plenty of pure water, but by providing the means of efficiently flushing the drains and sewers.

4. The health of the people during the year has been on the whole good; but chicken-pox, measles and small-pox were prevalent in parts of the town in an epidemic form. There were 357 births and 376 deaths. Everything has been on the same scale and footing as was in the previous year both in respect of conservancy and water-supply. The past season has been generally good.

Ootacamund,
14*th May* 1887.

(Signed) J. SMITH, Surgeon-Major,
Senior Medical Officer.

From L. R. BURROWS, Esq., Collector of Nílgiris, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 16th June 1887, No. 29.

I have the honor to submit the report of the chairman of the Ootacamund Municipal Council for the past official year 1886-87, with enclosures. The figures have been checked and found correct.

2. The variations, both under receipts and charges, are fully explained by the chairman.

3. With reference to paragraph 17 of the report, I beg to state that the names of the two councillors elected were submitted to Government on the 11th instant for publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, no objection having been made against their election under rule 35.

4. The orders of Government regarding compulsory vaccination, referred to in paragraph 19 of the report, have been received and were communicated to the municipality on the 18th ultimo.

5. The report of the Inspector of Schools, and the information and statements referred to in paragraphs 21 and 23, respectively, of the chairman's report, will be submitted as soon as they are received.

ORDER—dated 18th July 1887, No. 672 M., Local and Municipal.

The receipts and charges of the Ootacamund Municipality for 1886-87 are compared below with the budget and revised estimates for the year and the actuals of the previous year :—

RECEIPTS.

	Actuals, 1885-86.	Budget, 1886-87.	Revised estimate, 1886-87.	Actuals, 1886-87.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Balance brought forward	15,843	2,660	4,550	4,551
Rates on Houses and Lands	23,145	23,350	27,360	30,667
Taxes on Arts	4,177	5,000	4,970	4,567
Taxes on Vehicles and Animals ..	3,572	3,700	3,700	3,521
Taxes on Carts	686	600	600	624
Licenses	291	320	210	355
Assignments by Government	19,820	17,920	18,820	18,724
Fines and Fees	544	700	950	1,008
Fees in Schools and Training Institutions	3	..	10	11
Income from Markets	4,413	7,000	7,010	7,186
Rent of other Buildings, Gardens, &c.	5,721	5,850	5,240	5,255
Payments for Municipal Services to private parties	4,682	4,800	4,800	4,968
Endowments, &c.	49	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	238	190	550	1,451
Loans	25,178	..	9,910	9,907
Advances Recovered	11	..	..	82
Total ..	1,08,373	72,090	88,680	92,877

CHARGES.

	Actuals, 1885-86.	Budget, 1886-87.	Revised estimate, 1886-87.	Actuals, 1886-87.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
GRANT I.				
New Works—				
Communications..	1,951	..	20	19
Buildings	32,357	500	12,210	1,780
Drainage	159	500	250	82
Water-supply	..	..	290	286
Miscellaneous	2,902	3,000	3,000	3,193

CHARGES—*cont.*

	Actuals, 1885-86.	Budget, 1886-87.	Revised estimate, 1886-87.	Actuals, 1886-87.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Repairs—				
Communications..	12,317	12,150	13,370	13,441
Buildings	669	900	400	157
Drainage	28	250	250	115
Water-supply	143	250	250	328
Miscellaneous	742	300	300	25
Establishment	4,152	4,150	4,150	4,121
Tools and Plant and Contingencies	761	250	300	309
Contribution to Local Funds ..	100	100	100	100
GRANT II.				
Municipal Schools—				
On the salary-results system ..	94	200	200	167
Salary Grants	997	1,260	1,310	1,047
Results Grants	334	400	450	314
Inspection	240	240	240	240
Miscellaneous	..	..	20	17
GRANT III.				
Hospitals and Dispensaries ..	1,000	550	550	500
Contributions to Government ..	702	510	510	505
Vaccination	314	320	320	292
Registration of Births and Deaths	160	180	180	170
Conservancy	23,168	21,920	21,270	21,060
GRANT IV.				
Lighting	3,079	3,000	2,700	2,857
Markets	551	580	790	776
Choultries	120	120	120	120
Miscellaneous	2,645	2,610	2,710	2,674
GRANT V.				
Supervision and Management ..	6,199	6,870	6,960	6,883
Repayment of Debt	6,464	4,900	4,840	4,870
Advances Recoverable..	190	..	..	135
Refunds..	1,284	1,200	1,200	1,396
Balance	4,551	4,880	9,420	24,898
Total ..	1,08,373	72,090	88,680	92,877

Statement VI-B erroneously omits the closing balance and the grand total of expenditure. A sum of Rs. 2,236 has further been omitted from the item "Repayment of debt, &c.," under the actuals of 1885-86. In the above statement and in Statement II, the permanent advance of Rs. 30 made during the year is erroneously included under Refunds instead of under "Advances recoverable." The necessary corrections have been made in the foregoing abstract. It is presumed that the sum of Rs. 82, shown under "Advances recovered" in Statement I, relates to recoveries from advances made in previous years. Statement II shows that income-tax amounting to Rs. 322 has been paid from municipal funds; and from Statement II-B, it would appear that deduction has been made on this account from the salaries of the municipal subordinates liable to the tax. There is no necessity for including these transactions in the municipal accounts.

2. During the greater portion of the year under report, the office of chairman was held by Mr. W. E. Schmidt, a non-official councillor, who was elected by the council in July 1886. The Collector was in charge till then, as the Revenue divisional officer. On the 31st March last, the council consisted of 13 members, of whom 3 were officials and 10 (5 Europeans and 5 Natives) non-officials, all appointed by Government. Appendix A wrongly shows these numbers as 16, 4 and 12. The full number of seats on the council is 16, of which eight are intended to be ultimately

filled by election under rules sanctioned in G.O., 11th June 1886, No. 549 M. The council held 27 meetings during the year, which were attended by an average of 6·7 members (officials 1·5, and non-officials 5·2).

3. The opening balance was Rs. 4,551, and the current receipts amounted to Rs. 88,326, against Rs. 69,430 anticipated in the budget, and Rs. 84,130 in the revised estimate. The total expenditure was Rs. 67,979, and the year thus closed with a balance of Rs. 24,898, of which Rs. 14,677 belonged to ordinary municipal revenues and Rs. 10,221 to loan funds.

4. Excluding assignments by Government and loans, the actual municipal revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 59,695, the chief items of which were as follows :—Tax on buildings and lands, Rs. 30,667 ; tax on arts, Rs. 4,567 ; tax on vehicles and animals, Rs. 3,521 ; market and other rents, Rs. 12,441 ; and private scavengering fees, Rs. 4,968. The municipality derives no income from tolls. As compared with the revised estimate, there is an increase in the current receipts of Rs. 4,196, which occurs chiefly under the tax on buildings and lands, and is explained below.

5. The tax on buildings brought in Rs. 25,924 and that on lands Rs. 4,743, total Rs. 30,667, against Rs. 27,360 anticipated in the revised estimate. There was an increase of about Rs. 1,000 in the current demand under these taxes, due, apparently, to a revision of the registers, and the current collections, which amounted to 97·2 per cent. of the demand, showed a very marked improvement on previous years. Of the arrear demand of Rs. 5,640, only 83·2 per cent. was collected, but the balance (Rs. 700) has been written off, being apparently irrecoverable. For the collection of these taxes, 479 warrants were issued and 3 prosecutions were instituted, property being distrained in 81 cases and sold in 17. The statement showing the incidence of the tax on buildings and the information regarding the number of persons assessed to the tax on arts, promised in the last paragraph of the report, are awaited.

6. The current demand under the tax on arts (Rs. 4,368) shows an unexplained decrease, as compared with the previous year, of over Rs. 700, and of this reduced amount Rs. 202 had to be remitted on appeal, &c. The current collections were fair, being 93·2 per cent. of the demand, and the uncollected arrears have been written off, as in the case of the tax on buildings and lands.

7. The receipts from the tax on vehicles and animals remained almost stationary, being Rs. 3,521 against Rs. 3,572 in 1885-86.

8. Market rents yielded Rs. 7,186, against Rs. 7,010 in the revised estimate and Rs. 4,413 in 1885-86. The new market has been finished, and is open to the public. The report on its working promised along with other information, in the last paragraph of the chairman's letter, is awaited. "Rent of other buildings" came up to Rs. 5,255, and was derived chiefly from the slaughter-house and bandy-stand fees.

9. Fees for the private scavengering service amounted to Rs. 4,968, against Rs. 4,682 in 1885-86, the increase being ascribed to improved collections.

10. The regular grants made by Government to the Municipality consisted of Rs. 12,000 towards the maintenance charge of the sanitary establishment, Rs. 4,700 for roads, and Rs. 120 for the upkeep of the Agraharam chattram ; special grants amounting to Rs. 1,904 were also made during the year.

11. Certain old unadjusted deposits, amounting to Rs. 986, were credited to municipal funds, and this has swelled the miscellaneous receipts. It is presumed that further information as to this transaction will appear in the audit report.

12. A further loan of Rs. 10,000 for the completion of the municipal market was raised during the year, the net receipts being Rs. 9,907. The total amount borrowed for this purpose has been Rs. 60,000.

13. The incidence of taxation per head of the population was Rs. 3-3-6, against Rs. 2-9-4 in 1885-86, the increase being due to the improved collections noticed in paragraph 6 above. The general average (excluding tolls) for all municipalities in 1885-86 was Rs. 0-8-10.

14. The total expenditure amounted, as above stated, to Rs. 67,979, agains Rs. 79,260 anticipated in the revised estimate, and Rs. 1,03,822, the actuals of the previous year. It was distributed as shown below :—

	Rs.	Per cent.
Grant I—Public Works	23,956	35·3
" II—Education	1,785	2·6
" III—Sanitation and Medical Services	22,527	33·1
" IV—Lighting and Miscellaneous	6,427	9·5
" V—Supervision and Management	6,883	10·1
Interest and repayment of debt, advances and refunds ..	6,401	9·4
Total ..	67,979	100·0

15. The outlay on public works fell short of the revised estimate by Rs. 10,914, owing chiefly to the final payment on account of the new market buildings having been made in the current year, instead of during 1886-87 as was expected. Certain improvements were also made during the year to the bandy stand and the Hobart Park, at a cost of Rs. 2,030 and Rs. 1,143, respectively, but it does not appear that the estimates for these works and the past expenditure on the latter are correctly given in Statement II-A. The diversion of part of the funds allotted towards the original Hobart Park improvement scheme to the establishment of a race-course will be dealt with in a separate order. The portion of the Mettupálaiyam-Gúdalúr road within municipal limits remained, as usual, in charge of the Public Works Department. The other roads in the town were repaired at a cost of Rs. 13,441. The Public Works establishment, which includes an Engineer on Rs. 200 per mensem, cost Rs. 4,121. It appears that the Engineer's clerk was paid at the rate of Rs. 30 per mensem for eight months, instead of Rs. 25 as sanctioned by Government. The reason for this should be explained.

16. The educational expenditure was Rs. 1,785, against Rs. 1,665 in 1885-86. Rs. 167 were spent on municipal schools, Rs. 1,361 on aided institutions, and Rs. 257 on inspection and miscellaneous. There was one primary school maintained by the council on the salary results system, which appears to have been closed at the end of the year ; two middle schools were aided on the salary system ; and one middle and two primary schools on the results system. Besides these, there are ten schools in the town which receive no aid from the municipality. The Deputy Inspector's report on the working of the aided schools, and on the state and progress of education in the town, should be expedited.

17. The usual contribution of Rs. 500 was paid to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, in which 712 in and 12,681 out patients were treated, against 970 and 12,887, respectively, in 1885-86. A sum of Rs. 243 was also paid to Government as contribution for sanitary inspection.

18. The number and cost of vaccine operations, and the number of births and deaths registered during the year, are shown below :—

—	Number of vaccine operations.	Average cost of each.	Births.	Rate per mille.	Deaths.	Rate per mille.
		Rs. A. P.				
1885-86	631	0 7 11	370	29·9	333	26·9
1886-87	614	0 7 7	357	28 9	377	30·6

Vaccination has, since the close of the year, been made compulsory. Measles and small-pox prevailed during the year in portions of the town, and 47 deaths were due to these causes. The total deaths are entered as 377 in the first of the death tables given in paragraph 19 of the chairman's letter, whereas in the second table and in the medical officer's report the number is given as 376. The discrepancy should be explained.

19. Conservancy continued to be the largest item of expenditure in this municipality. The outlay thereon was Rs. 21,060, against Rs. 23,168 in 1885-86, the decrease being due to savings effected. The completion of the north water-supply scheme, which is being carried out by the Public Works Department, is now in active progress. The council's proposals regarding the south water-supply scheme and the drainage of Kandal should be made the subject of separate communications. The medical officer's remarks regarding the cleansing of drains and the neglect of house-drainage should receive the special attention of the council during the current year.

20. The lighting of the town cost Rs. 2,857, against Rs. 3,079 in 1885-86. The cost of the water-works establishment and contingencies (Rs. 998), and printing charges (Rs. 769), have swelled the miscellaneous charges under Grant IV, while the entertainment of a Secretary on Rs. 250 a month contributed to raise the establishment charges to the high figure of Rs. 6,883. The clerical establishment of four clerks is very strong. Details of the collection establishment maintained by the council should have been given in Statement II-B. Its members appear to have received a commission of 5 per cent. on the collections in addition to their pay. This seems excessive, and explanation is desired.

21. The municipal debt on the 31st March 1887 amounted to Rs. 66,955, against which there was a sinking fund of Rs. 2,040. During the year, Rs. 3,256 were paid as interest, and Rs. 1,614 in liquidation of debt. The following statement shows the financial position of the municipality on the above date :—

Assets.

	RS.
Cash balance	24,898
Sinking fund	2,040
Value of premises	75,000
Advances	25
Total ..	1,01,963

Liabilities.

Balance of loans	66,955

Under Liabilities should be entered the payment of some 10,000 rupees due on account of the market on 31st March.

The outstanding advances at the close of the year being Rs. 135, as shown in Statement II, it should be explained why only Rs. 25 are shown in the note to this statement.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Chairman, Municipal Council, Ootacamund.
through the Collector of Nilgiris.
" Revenue Department.
" Board of Revenue.
" Public Works Department.
" Accountant-General.
" Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
" Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" President, District Board, Nilgiris.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

No 2195 W d/17th August/87

Communicated to the Supg. Engineer IV Circle.

Hdy No 4 h

Govt. of {1887} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 18th July 1887, No. 672 M.

No 2195 W d/17th August/87

JULY.

L.E. IV Circle
Engr. 4th A.

Municipal Report.

Reviewing the Ootacamund — for 1886-87.

With order

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From W. E. SCHMIDT, Esq., Chairman, Municipal Council, Ootacamund, to the Chief Secretary to Government (through the Collector of Nílgiris), dated Ootacamund, 15th May 1887, No. 417.

I have the honor to submit the following reports and statements in connection with the administration of the Ootacamund Municipality for the year 1886-87 :—

I. The prescribed Statements I to VI with Appendices.
II. Copy of the Report of the Deputy Inspector of Schools.
III. Copy of the Report of the Senior Medical Officer.

2. Including the opening balance of Rs. 4,550-9-8, the total receipts of the year amount to Rs. 92,877-7-0 and the expenditure to Rs. 67,979-14-6, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 24,897-8-6 which is exclusive of deposits, and is made up as follows :—

	RS.	A.	P.
Municipal cash balance proper	14,676	4	9
Municipal market loan balance, for which sum the Bank of Madras gave the municipal council credit on the 31st March 1887	10,221	3	9
Total	24,897	8	6

3. The total receipts from taxation amount to Rs. 39,734-7-1, against an estimate of Rs. 36,840 and Rs. 31,872 the actuals of the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 2,894-7-1 over the revised estimate figures. The actuals of the last three years are as follows :—

	RS.	A.	P.
1884-85	32,067	0	0
1885-86	31,872	0	0
1886-87	39,734	0	0

(*a*) *Rates on Houses and Lands.*—

Revised estimate, 1886-87	27,360	0	0
Actuals, 1886-87	30,667	7	1
Increase over estimate ..	3,307	7	1

The actuals of the last three years are as follows :—

	RS.	A.	P.
1884-85	23,411	0	0
1885-86	23,146	0	0
1886-87	30,667	0	0

It will be noticed that the current collections on account of houses and lands are Rs. 22,783-2-11 and Rs. 3,189-11-0, respectively, which far exceed the collections of any previous years.

(*b*) *Tax on Arts.*—

	RS.	A.	P.
Revised estimate, 1886-87	4,970	0	0
Actuals, 1886-87	4,566	12	0
Decrease under estimate ..	403	4	0

The actuals of the past three years are as follows :—

	Rs.
1884-85	4,402
1885-86	4,178
1886-87	4,567

The increase under this head is due to improved collections.

(*c*) *Tax on Vehicles and Animals.*—

	Rs.
Estimate for 1886-87	3,700
Actuals for „	3,521
Decrease under estimate ..	179

The actuals of the past three years are as follows :—

	Rs.
1884-85	3,407
1885-86	3,572
1886-87	3,521

4. *Contributions from Provincial Funds.*—The total receipts under this head amount to Rs. 18,723-13-3, of which Rs. 12,000 were for the annual contribution on account of extra charges for *conservancy*, sanctioned in G.O., No. 347 F., dated 28th April 1886; Rs. 4,700 for the maintenance of station roads, sanctioned in G.O., No. 1830 F., dated 8th August 1884; Rs. 1,000 for improvements to Hobart Park, sanctioned in G.O., No. 24 F., dated 9th January 1885; Rs. 120 being the annual contribution for the upkeep of the Agraharam chattram, sanctioned in G.O., No. 446 F., dated 25th February 1884; two further sums of Rs. 617-13-3 and Rs. 286 were received from the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, for the completion of the improvement to the Commercial road and for sinking a well on Lower bazaar road.

5. *Income from Markets.*—The total income derived from the market amounted to Rs. 7,186-8-2, against Rs. 7,010 the provision in the revised estimate, and Rs. 4,413 the actuals of the previous year. The amount realised from market stall rents is Rs. 3,911-14-0. The increase over the previous year's collections is due to stall rents being collected for five months only in the previous year, from November 1885, the date of completion of the market buildings.

6. *Rent of other Buildings.*—The income derived from this source amounted to Rs. 5,254-11-6, against Rs. 5,240 provided in the revised estimate, and Rs. 5,721 the actuals of the previous year. The slight increase over the estimate calls for no special remarks; while the decrease under the previous year's figures has already been explained to Government in paragraph II of letter of Collector to the Chief Secretary to Government, No. 13, dated 27th January 1887, and is the result of the small amounts bid for the bandy-stand and slaughter-house tolls at the anual auction sales.

7. *Payments for Municipal Services.*—The income from this source of revenue amounted to Rs. 4,968-3-0, against a revised estimate provision of Rs. 4,800 and Rs. 4,682 the actuals of the previous year. The increase is due to improved collections.

8. *Miscellaneous.*—The receipts under this head amount to Rs. 1,451-8-4, which sum is made up as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Sale of poudrette	369	0	0
Sale of measures	21	12	0
Sale of old tools and plant	71	4	9
Sale of Acts and Bye-laws	3	12	0
Certain unadjusted deposits accruing for several years transferred from deposit account and petty receipts	985	11	7
Total ..	1,451	8	4

9. *Loans.*—The amount received under this head on account of the new market supplemental loan of Rs. 10,000, sanctioned in G.O., No. 1033 M., dated 9th October 1886, was Rs. 9,907.

10. *Expenditure—Grant I, Public Works—New Works, &c.*—The total expenditure under this grant was Rs. 23,956-4-0, against a revised estimate of Rs. 34,890 and the actuals of the previous year Rs. 56,281. The decrease is owing to the balance due on account of the construction of the new market buildings not having been paid during the year, owing to the market contractors not submitting bills in accordance with the terms of the contract, and to small savings under the several minor heads of this grant. Under New Works, Miscellaneous, a sum of Rs. 3,192-13-1 was spent; Rs. 1,000 of which was contributed towards certain improvements to the Hobart Park on which the new Race-course is being constructed, and the balance on the improvement to the bandy-stand. The expenditure under "Repairs—Communications," was Rs. 13,441-0-1, and is distributed as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
(*a*) Station roads	4,689	3	4
(*b*) Municipal main roads	7,264	12	4
(*c*) Bridle roads	1,487	0	5
Total ..	13,441	0	1

The several other heads under this grant call for no special remarks.

11 *Grant II, Education.*—The expenditure under this grant amounted to Rs. 1,784-12-7, against the revised estimate provision of Rs. 2,220 and the actuals of the previous year Rs. 1,665.

Under "Salary Grants" Rs. 1,047 were paid against Rs. 997 the actuals of the previous year; an increase of Rs. 22-8-0 was allowed to the Roman Catholic boys' school by the municipal council. (*Vide* their Proceedings, No. V, dated 18th November 1886.) This school is a large and growing institution, and disseminates education amongst the poorest classes of natives in Ootacamund. The total amount of results grants earned was Rs. 313-8-0, against Rs. 334 the actuals of the previous year. A sum of Rs. 167-4-7 was spent on the Old Ootacamund school, which is maintained on the combined system.

12. *Grant III, Sanitation and Medical Services.*—The total expenditure under this grant is Rs. 22,527-6-5, against a revised estimate provision of Rs. 22,830 and Rs. 25,344-4-4 the actuals of the previous year.

The usual contribution of Rs. 500 was given to St. Bartholomew's hospital, and a summary of the working of this institution, as furnished by the medical officer of the station, is given below :—

(1)	Average daily number of persons aided during 1886-87, *i.e.*, old and new cases attending or present in the hospital		70·40
(2)	Number aided in the year—		
	(*a*) Number of old patients continuing under treatment from the previous year		87
	(*b*) Number of new admissions during the year		13,306
(3)	Income—		₹
	(*a*) From Government	Rs.	1,814 15 6
	(*b*) Endowment—		
	In land	„	..
	In money	„	..
	(*c*) Subscriptions and donations	„	3,006 15 1
(4)	Nature of relief afforded—		
	(*a*) In-door	No.	712
	(*b*) Out-door	„	12,681
	Total ..		13,393

Rupees 19, 243, and 243 were paid on account of the Reserve Medical staff, Medical College, and Sanitary inspection, respectively.

The expenditure under Vaccination and Registration of Rupees 292-9-5 and Rs. 170-3-7, respectively, remains the same as in the previous year. The cost of conservancy establishment amounted to Rs. 14,436-6-4, against Rs.14,557-1-5 the actuals of the previous year, and the decrease is due to small reduction being made during the off-season. Under Sanitary Service the expenditure amounted to Rs. 5,687-0-11, against Rs. 8,033-1-2 the actuals of the previous year. The saving under this head is due to economy being observed in the feeding of the conservancy cattle. The other items under this grant call for no special remarks.

13. *Grant IV, Miscellaneous.*—The total expenditure under this grant amounted to Rs. 6,427-4-2, against a revised estimate provision of Rs. 6,320 and Rs. 6,394-15-0 the actuals of the previous year. The expenditure under this grant calls for no special remarks.

14. *Grant V, General Establishment.*—The total expenditure under this grant amounted to Rs. 6,883-7-9, against a revised estimate provision of Rs. 6,960 and Rs. 6,199-7-11 the actuals of the previous year. The increase under this grant over the previous year's expenditure is due to the appointment of a secretary sanctioned in G.O., No. 374 M.F., dated 8th August 1885.

15. A sum of Rs. 614-7-10 was repaid to Government during the year, being the annual instalment due on account of the loan of Rs. 12,420, sanctioned by Government in their order, No. 1761, Financial Department, dated 3rd September 1875; and a further sum of Rs. 255-10-10, being the interest due upon the above loan at 4 per cent. In addition to the above, Rs. 3,000 were disbursed on account of interest, at 6 per cent., upon Rs. 50,000 the amount of municipal debentures; the loan having been sanctioned by Government in their order, No. 1992, dated 27th August 1884, Financial. A sum of Rs. 1,000 was invested in the Bank of Madras 4 per cent. fixed deposits. This sum is the second instalment (2 per cent. of the aggregate loan) for the liquidation of Rs. 50,000 in thirty years. The amount to the credit of the Sinking fund is now Rs. 2,040, as shown in note to statement II.

16. *Refunds.*—The total expenditure under this head amounted to Rs. 1,073-15-11, against Rs. 1,284 the actuals of the previous year, and Rs. 2,765-9-6 the expenditure in 1884-85. They were chiefly granted under section 72 of Act IV of 1884 for the vacancy of houses.

17. The number of members on the council was 15 instead of 16, owing to the resignation of Major A. C. Smith, the Executive Engineer, on his transfer from the district. Two other vacancies occurred, viz., that of Messrs. Abraham and Wapshore, their period of service as councillors having expired. The draft election rules embodied in G.O., No. 549 M., dated 11th June 1886, are to be put in force. An election of the two councillors will be held on the 19th instant, the result of which will be duly communicated to Government. The council was composed of the following proportions:—

Officials	4	Europeans	10
Non-officials	12	Natives	6

The number of meetings held during the year was twenty-seven, and the average attendance at each meeting is 6·7.

18. Several works of great importance were commenced during the year under review; the principal one being the establishment of a Race-course in the Hobart Park. Such an institution, while affording recreation to a large portion of the community, will benefit in no small measure the trade of the town during a portion of the year. Full particulars regarding this important work have been submitted to Government in my letter, No. 332, dated 26th April 1887, and therefore do not require any further explanation.

A raised footpath is being constructed by the Public Works Department from Charing Cross to the Market. This will add to the convenience of foot-passengers and to the general appearance of the Commercial road. The thanks of the council are due to Government for this.

A large masonry cistern has also been constructed on Jail Hill in connection with the new water scheme, and it is hoped that it will be found useful after certain improvements to the neighbourhood have been effected.

The Public Works Department is also conserving the lower lake by clearing its banks of vegetation, and erecting a neat wire fencing all round the margin. This work was very much needed, and is appreciated both as a sanitary measure and the beauty it adds to that portion of the town. The triangular plot of grass with trees in front of Mr. Boesinger's shop was removed, and the space metalled. This has proved a great advantage, as it now renders the ingress and egress of vehicles to the public library perfectly safe.

The Adam Memorial Fountain is almost complete, and will add materially to the ornamentation of the public offices, in front of which it has been erected.

The council are deeply sensible of the great benefits that will result to the community at large by the completion of the north water-supply scheme. The work is now in active progress, and it is impossible to estimate too highly the value of the work and the liberality of Government in executing it.

The council are anxious to see two great and important works in Ootacamund undertaken. They are—

(1) The piping of the South or Dodabetta water-supply channel; and
(2) The drainage of Kandal.

All information regarding the former is already before Government. The great necessity for the latter cannot be too strongly urged. Kandal is the largest suburb of Ootacamund, and is daily increasing in size and population. It is impossible to maintain thorough cleanliness and enforce sanitary rules with the drainage that exists at present. A proposed system of stone-ware drains will transform this suburb into a healthy locality.

Plan and estimates for this important work are being prepared, and the cost, it is expected, will amount to at least 40,000 rupees. The council will do themselves the honor of again addressing Government on the subject.

The council feel competent to deal with the drainage of the small villages, such as Old Ootacamund, Thalayattimund, Koddappamund, and Vannarapet, from their own revenues. But the drainage of Kandal is quite beyond their present means.

19. It will be observed from the senior medical officer's report that the general health of the municipality during the year was good. A great deal of small-pox, however, was prevalent in the bazaars, and particularly in the village of Kandal, there being no less than forty-two deaths.

Government have been addressed under date 22nd February 1887, No. 121, in view to making vaccination compulsory in this municipality. The birth and death rate statistics are as follows:—

Births.

Months.		Europeans.	East Indians.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Total.
April	1886 ..	1	5	14	6	26
May	,, ..	1	1	26	1	29
June	,, ..	2	11	13	..	26
July	,, ..	1	5	30	3	39
August	,, ..	2	2	17	..	21
September	,, ..	1	..	18	2	21
October	,, ..	1	3	43	1	48
November	,, ..	..	3	25	2	30
December	,, ..	1	1	20	1	23
January	1887 ..	3	3	30	1	37
February	,, ..	..	..	27	..	27
March	,, ..	..	..	28	2	30
	Total ..	13	34	291	19	357

Deaths.

Months.		Small-pox.	Measles.	Fever.	Dysentery.	Diarrhœa.	Cholera.	All other causes.	Total.	Under one year and still-born.	1 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 30.	30 to 40.	40 to 50.	50 to 60.	Over 60.
April	1886	..	..	11	3	..	..	11	26	1	4	4	..	1	2	6	3	4	..
May	,,	1	..	19	1	1	..	14	36	7	8	4	..	2	5	1	2	3	4
June	,,	..	..	23	..	..	..	14	37	7	8	1	..	2	5	2	..	2	..
July	,,	..	..	26	..	..	..	20	45	6	12	5	..	..	10	3	3	..	6
August	,,	..	..	13	3	1	..	15	32	6	2	..	..	2	6	1	3	6	3
September	,,	..	2	2	3	3	..	12	22	7	4	2	1	2	3	2	..	1	1
October	,,	..	1	10	..	..	..	25	36	14	2	1	2	1	4	2	1	2	2
November	,,	3	2	11	..	..	..	9	27	13	6	2	1	2	3	2	2	1	1
December	,,	4	..	5	3	..	..	14	26	10	7	4	2	1	2	2	1	1	1
January	1887	10	..	5	1	..	..	13	29	8	7	3	3	1	2	2	1	3	1
February	,,	12	..	8	..	..	..	14	34	15	3	3	..	..	3	2	..	3	2
March	,,	11	..	5	..	..	..	11	27	9	7	3	..	..	4	5	2	2	1
Total	..	42	5	137	16	5	..	172	377	103	72	24	14	14	47	28	25	18	31

Vaccination Return from April 1886 to March 1887.

Months.		Under one year.				One to six.				Above six.				Result.			
		Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.
April	1886	16	16	..	..	22	21	1	..	21	18	1	2	60	55	3	2
May	,,	17	16	..	..	19	18	..	1	20	17	1	2	61	54	4	3
June	,,	19	19	..	..	21	19	1	1	13	12	..	1	56	52	2	2
July	,,	13	12	1	..	22	20	1	1	19	18	1	..	56	51	3	2
August	,,	11	10	1	..	26	24	1	1	18	17	..	1	55	51	2	2
September	,,	10	10	..	..	24	23	..	1	17	16	1	..	51	49	1	1
October	,,	13	13	..	..	6	6	..	..	26	23	2	1	52	49	2	1
November	,,	10	10	..	..	14	13	1	..	5	4	..	1	32	30	1	1
December	,,	13	12	1	..	16	16	..	..	10	10	..	..	47	42	2	3
January	1887	17	13	2	2	18	14	1	3	5	4	..	1	41	32	3	6
February	,,	5	3	..	2	36	33	2	1	4	4	..	..	47	42	3	2
March	,,	4	3	1	..	42	38	2	2	4	4	..	..	56	51	3	2
	Total	148	138	6	4	266	245	10	11	162	147	5	10	614	558	28	28

It will be noticed from the foregoing figures that the birth-rate per mille per annum is 28·8, while the death-rate is 30·49 or 3·39 over last year's. Excluding those deaths which occurred between the ages of 0 to 5 and over 60, the death-rate is reduced to 13·7 per mille. The exceptionally high death-rate this year may be attributed to the prevalence of small-pox which proved most fatal to children. The above figures point out to this conclusion, as omitting the deaths of children under 5, to the number of 175, and of persons over 60, to the number of 31, the death-rate per mille falls from 30·49 to 13·7, which is a decrease under the previous year's death-rate of 2·9 per mille.

20. The revised Ootacamund Municipal Bye-laws are still under the consideration of the council, and will be shortly submitted to Government.

21. The report of the Deputy Inspector of Schools is not embodied in this report, as it has not yet been received. It will be duly forwarded to Government.

22. Government, in their order, No. 354 M., dated 10th April 1886, have directed that the audit of the municipal accounts should be done by the Inspector of Local Fund Accounts. The audit for the year under review has not yet taken place. The audit figures will be submitted in due course.

23. The information and statements called for by Government, in paragraphs 9, 10, 17, 21, 36 and 47, of their order, No. 304 M., Local and Municipal, dated 31st March 1887, are in preparation, and will be duly submitted.

Enclosure.

Sanitary Report of the Municipality of Ootacamund for the official year 1886-87.

The refuse is buried in an open place some three miles out of the town; the sweepings and other inoffensive rubbish is utilised in filling up pits and hollows in various localities. There are within the municipal limits seven villages, viz. Kandal, Kodappamund, Pudumund, Thalayattimund, Vannarapet, Bandy shola, and Manjanacorai, besides the Ootacamund town proper. There are in all 42 pucka-built latrines, and 150 private latrines, which are in a satisfactory condition, and are freely resorted to by the people. They are being daily cleaned and properly attended to. The slaughter-houses are thoroughly cleaned every day, and offensive matters removed and buried. There are for conservancy purposes two sanitary inspectors, four overseers, five maistries, twenty-five drivers and ninety sweepers; besides there are twelve night-soil and fourteen rubbish carts.

2. The quality of water is good, and supply abundant; there being two large reservoirs well conserved, one at Marlimund and the other at Dodabetta. The water from reservoirs is carried in open channels to the villages, houses, hotels, &c., that going to the main bazaar is piped from St. Stephen's Church till it reaches the filtering beds, which supplies three large covered masonry cisterns situated in convenient localities. The filtering beds are renewed periodically. There are a number of wells in private houses used for drinking purposes. The municipality maintain a separate establishment for water purposes, which consists of one inspector and four channel peons, whose duties are to regulate the supply, and keep channels clean.

3. The masonry drains in the bazaar and adjoining streets and alleys are excellent; but they require more frequent flushing. I have inspected these drains often, and it is exceptional to find them not in a very filthy state and smelling badly. The house drainage is as usual left to take care of itself, which it does by running out of a small aperture in the back walls of the houses, and stagnating in a putrid pool. A piped water-supply will shortly be in use here, the pipes having arrived from England, and it may be expected that this will improve the health of the town in every way, not only by giving plenty of pure water, but by providing the means of efficiently flushing the drains and sewers.

4. The health of the people during the year has been on the whole good; but chicken-pox, measles and small-pox were prevalent in parts of the town in an epidemic form. There were 357 births and 376 deaths. Everything has been on the same scale and footing as was in the previous year both in respect of conservancy and water-supply. The past season has been generally good.

Ootacamund,
14*th May* 1887.

(Signed) J. SMITH, Surgeon-Major,
Senior Medical Officer.

From L. R. BURROWS, Esq., Collector of Nílgiris, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 16th June 1887, No. 29.

I have the honor to submit the report of the chairman of the Ootacamund Municipal Council for the past official year 1886-87, with enclosures. The figures have been checked and found correct.

2. The variations, both under receipts and charges, are fully explained by the chairman.

3. With reference to paragraph 17 of the report, I beg to state that the names of the two councillors elected were submitted to Government on the 11th instant for publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, no objection having been made against their election under rule 35.

4. The orders of Government regarding compulsory vaccination, referred to in paragraph 19 of the report, have been received and were communicated to the municipality on the 18th ultimo.

5. The report of the Inspector of Schools, and the information and statements referred to in paragraphs 21 and 23, respectively, of the chairman's report, will be submitted as soon as they are received.

ORDER—dated 18th July 1887, No. 672 M., Local and Municipal.

The receipts and charges of the Ootacamund Municipality for 1886-87 are compared below with the budget and revised estimates for the year and the actuals of the previous year :—

RECEIPTS.

	Actuals, 1885-86.	Budget, 1886-87.	Revised estimate, 1886-87.	Actuals, 1886-87.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Balance brought forward	15,843	2,660	4,550	4,551
Rates on Houses and Lands	23,145	23,350	27,360	30,667
Taxes on Arts	4,177	5,000	4,970	4,567
Taxes on Vehicles and Animals ..	3,572	3,700	3,700	3,521
Taxes on Carts	686	600	600	624
Licenses	291	320	210	355
Assignments by Government	19,820	17,920	18,820	18,724
Fines and Fees	544	700	950	1,008
Fees in Schools and Training Institutions	3	..	10	11
Income from Markets	4,413	7,000	7,010	7,186
Rent of other Buildings, Gardens, &c.	5,721	5,850	5,240	5,255
Payments for Municipal Services to private parties	4,682	4,800	4,800	4,968
Endowments, &c.	49	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	238	190	550	1,451
Loans	25,178	..	9,910	9,907
Advances Recovered	11	..	..	82
Total ..	1,08,373	72,090	88,680	92,877

CHARGES.

GRANT I.				
New Works—				
Communications..	1,951	..	20	19
Buildings	32,357	500	12,210	1,780
Drainage	159	500	250	82
Water-supply	..	..	290	286
Miscellaneous	2,902	3,000	3,000	3,193

CHARGES—*cont.*

	Actuals, 1885-86.	Budget, 1886-87.	Revised estimate, 1886-87.	Actuals, 1886-87.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Repairs—				
Communications..	12,317	12,150	13,370	13,441
Buildings	669	900	400	157
Drainage	28	250	250	115
Water-supply	143	250	250	328
Miscellaneous	742	300	300	25
Establishment	4,152	4,150	4,150	4,121
Tools and Plant and Contingencies	761	250	300	309
Contribution to Local Funds ..	100	100	100	100
GRANT II.				
Municipal Schools—				
On the salary-results system ..	94	200	200	167
Salary Grants	997	1,260	1,310	1,047
Results Grants	334	400	450	314
Inspection	240	240	240	240
Miscellaneous	..	..	20	17
GRANT III.				
Hospitals and Dispensaries ..	1,000	550	550	500
Contributions to Government ..	702	510	510	505
Vaccination	314	320	320	292
Registration of Births and Deaths	160	180	180	170
Conservancy	23,168	21,920	21,270	21,060
GRANT IV.				
Lighting	3,079	3,000	2,700	2,857
Markets	551	580	790	776
Choultries	120	120	120	120
Miscellaneous	2,645	2,610	2,710	2,674
GRANT V.				
Supervision and Management ..	6,199	6,870	6,960	6,883
Repayment of Debt	6,464	4,900	4,840	4,870
Advances Recoverable	190	..	..	135
Refunds..	1,284	1,200	1,200	1,396
Balance	4,551	4,880	9,420	24,898
Total ..	1,08,373	72,090	88,680	92,877

Statement VI-B erroneously omits the closing balance and the grand total of expenditure. A sum of Rs. 2,236 has further been omitted from the item "Repayment of debt, &c.," under the actuals of 1885-86. In the above statement and in Statement II, the permanent advance of Rs. 30 made during the year is erroneously included under Refunds instead of under "Advances recoverable." The necessary corrections have been made in the foregoing abstract. It is presumed that the sum of Rs. 82, shown under "Advances recovered" in Statement I, relates to recoveries from advances made in previous years. Statement II shows that income-tax amounting to Rs. 322 has been paid from municipal funds; and from Statement II-B, it would appear that deduction has been made on this account from the salaries of the municipal subordinates liable to the tax. There is no necessity for including these transactions in the municipal accounts.

2. During the greater portion of the year under report, the office of chairman was held by Mr. W. E. Schmidt, a non-official councillor, who was elected by the council in July 1886. The Collector was in charge till then, as the Revenue divisional officer. On the 31st March last, the council consisted of 13 members, of whom 3 were officials and 10 (5 Europeans and 5 Natives) non-officials, all appointed by Government. Appendix A wrongly shows these numbers as 16, 4 and 12. The full number of seats on the council is 16, of which eight are intended to be ultimately

filled by election under rules sanctioned in G.O., 11th June 1886, No. 549 M. The council held 27 meetings during the year, which were attended by an average of 6·7 members (officials 1·5, and non-officials 5·2).

3. The opening balance was Rs. 4,551, and the current receipts amounted to Rs. 88,326, against Rs. 69,430 anticipated in the budget, and Rs. 84,130 in the revised estimate. The total expenditure was Rs. 67,979, and the year thus closed with a balance of Rs. 24,898, of which Rs. 14,677 belonged to ordinary municipal revenues and Rs. 10,221 to loan funds.

4. Excluding assignments by Government and loans, the actual municipal revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 59,695, the chief items of which were as follows:—Tax on buildings and lands, Rs. 30,667; tax on arts, Rs. 4,567; tax on vehicles and animals, Rs. 3,521; market and other rents, Rs. 12,441; and private scavengering fees, Rs. 4,968. The municipality derives no income from tolls. As compared with the revised estimate, there is an increase in the current receipts of Rs. 4,196, which occurs chiefly under the tax on buildings and lands, and is explained below.

5. The tax on buildings brought in Rs. 25,924 and that on lands Rs. 4,743, total Rs. 30,667, against Rs. 27,360 anticipated in the revised estimate. There was an increase of about Rs. 1,000 in the current demand under these taxes, due, apparently, to a revision of the registers, and the current collections, which amounted to 97·2 per cent. of the demand, showed a very marked improvement on previous years. Of the arrear demand of Rs. 5,640, only 83·2 per cent. was collected, but the balance (Rs. 700) has been written off, being apparently irrecoverable. For the collection of these taxes, 479 warrants were issued and 3 prosecutions were instituted, property being distrained in 81 cases and sold in 17. The statement showing the incidence of the tax on buildings and the information regarding the number of persons assessed to the tax on arts, promised in the last paragraph of the report, are awaited.

6. The current demand under the tax on arts (Rs. 4,368) shows an unexplained decrease, as compared with the previous year, of over Rs. 700, and of this reduced amount Rs. 202 had to be remitted on appeal, &c. The current collections were fair, being 93·2 per cent. of the demand, and the uncollected arrears have been written off, as in the case of the tax on buildings and lands.

7. The receipts from the tax on vehicles and animals remained almost stationary, being Rs. 3,521 against Rs. 3,572 in 1885-86.

8. Market rents yielded Rs. 7,186, against Rs. 7,010 in the revised estimate and Rs. 4,413 in 1885-86. The new market has been finished, and is open to the public. The report on its working promised along with other information, in the last paragraph of the chairman's letter, is awaited. "Rent of other buildings" came up to Rs. 5,255, and was derived chiefly from the slaughter-house and bandy-stand fees.

9. Fees for the private scavengering service amounted to Rs. 4,968, against Rs. 4,682 in 1885-86, the increase being ascribed to improved collections.

10. The regular grants made by Government to the Municipality consisted of Rs. 12,000 towards the maintenance charge of the sanitary establishment, Rs. 4,700 for roads, and Rs. 120 for the upkeep of the Agraharam chattram; special grants amounting to Rs. 1,904 were also made during the year.

11. Certain old unadjusted deposits, amounting to Rs. 986, were credited to municipal funds, and this has swelled the miscellaneous receipts. It is presumed that further information as to this transaction will appear in the audit report.

12. A further loan of Rs. 10,000 for the completion of the municipal market was raised during the year, the net receipts being Rs. 9,907. The total amount borrowed for this purpose has been Rs. 60,000.

13. The incidence of taxation per head of the population was Rs. 3-3-6, against Rs. 2-9-4 in 1885-86, the increase being due to the improved collections noticed in paragraph 6 above. The general average (excluding tolls) for all municipalities in 1885-86 was Rs. 0-8-10.

14. The total expenditure amounted, as above stated, to Rs. 67,979, agains Rs. 79,260 anticipated in the revised estimate, and Rs. 1,03,822, the actuals of the previous year. It was distributed as shown below:—

	Rs.	Per cent.
Grant I—Public Works	23,956	35·3
„ II—Education	1,785	2·6
„ III—Sanitation and Medical Services	22,527	33·1
„ IV—Lighting and Miscellaneous	6,427	9·5
„ V—Supervision and Management	6,883	10·1
Interest and repayment of debt, advances and refunds ..	6,401	9·4
Total ..	67,979	100·0

15. The outlay on public works fell short of the revised estimate by Rs. 10,914, owing chiefly to the final payment on account of the new market buildings having been made in the current year, instead of during 1886-87 as was expected. Certain improvements were also made during the year to the bandy stand and the Hobart Park, at a cost of Rs. 2,030 and Rs. 1,143, respectively, but it does not appear that the estimates for these works and the past expenditure on the latter are correctly given in Statement II-A. The diversion of part of the funds allotted towards the original Hobart Park improvement scheme to the establishment of a race-course will be dealt with in a separate order. The portion of the Mettupálaiyam-Gúdalúr road within municipal limits remained, as usual, in charge of the Public Works Department. The other roads in the town were repaired at a cost of Rs. 13,441. The Public Works establishment, which includes an Engineer on Rs. 200 per mensem, cost Rs. 4,121. It appears that the Engineer's clerk was paid at the rate of Rs. 30 per mensem for eight months, instead of Rs. 25 as sanctioned by Government. The reason for this should be explained.

16. The educational expenditure was Rs. 1,785, against Rs. 1,665 in 1885-86. Rs. 167 were spent on municipal schools, Rs. 1,361 on aided institutions, and Rs. 257 on inspection and miscellaneous. There was one primary school maintained by the council on the salary results system, which appears to have been closed at the end of the year; two middle schools were aided on the salary system; and one middle and two primary schools on the results system. Besides these, there are ten schools in the town which receive no aid from the municipality. The Deputy Inspector's report on the working of the aided schools, and on the state and progress of education in the town, should be expedited.

17. The usual contribution of Rs. 500 was paid to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, in which 712 in and 12,681 out patients were treated, against 970 and 12,887, respectively, in 1885-86. A sum of Rs. 243 was also paid to Government as contribution for sanitary inspection.

18. The number and cost of vaccine operations, and the number of births and deaths registered during the year, are shown below:—

—	Number of vaccine operations.	Average cost of each.	Births.	Rate per mille.	Deaths.	Rate per mille.
		Rs. A. P.				
1885-86	631	0 7 11	370	29·9	333	26·9
1886-87	614	0 7 7	357	28·9	377	30·6

Vaccination has, since the close of the year, been made compulsory. Measles and small-pox prevailed during the year in portions of the town, and 47 deaths were due to these causes. The total deaths are entered as 377 in the first of the death tables given in paragraph 19 of the chairman's letter, whereas in the second table and in the medical officer's report the number is given as 376. The discrepancy should be explained.

19. Conservancy continued to be the largest item of expenditure in this municipality. The outlay thereon was Rs. 21,060, against Rs. 23,168 in 1885-86, the decrease being due to savings effected. The completion of the north water-supply scheme, which is being carried out by the Public Works Department, is now in active progress. The council's proposals regarding the south water-supply scheme and the drainage of Kandal should be made the subject of separate communications. The medical officer's remarks regarding the cleansing of drains and the neglect of house-drainage should receive the special attention of the council during the current year.

20. The lighting of the town cost Rs. 2,857, against Rs. 3,079 in 1885-86. The cost of the water-works establishment and contingencies (Rs. 998), and printing charges (Rs. 769), have swelled the miscellaneous charges under Grant IV, while the entertainment of a Secretary on Rs. 250 a month contributed to raise the establishment charges to the high figure of Rs. 6,883. The clerical establishment of four clerks is very strong. Details of the collection establishment maintained by the council should have been given in Statement II-B. Its members appear to have received a commission of 5 per cent. on the collections in addition to their pay. This seems excessive, and explanation is desired.

21. The municipal debt on the 31st March 1887 amounted to Rs. 66,955, against which there was a sinking fund of Rs. 2,040. During the year, Rs. 3,256 were paid as interest, and Rs. 1,614 in liquidation of debt. The following statement shows the financial position of the municipality on the above date :—

Assets.

	Rs.
Cash balance	24,898
Sinking fund	2,040
Value of premises	75,000
Advances	25
Total ..	1,01,963

Liabilities.

Balance of loans	66,955

Under Liabilities should be entered the payment of some 10,000 rupees due on account of the market on 31st March.

The outstanding advances at the close of the year being Rs. 135, as shown in Statement II, it should be explained why only Rs. 25 are shown in the note to this statement.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Chairman, Municipal Council, Ootacamund.
through the Collector of Nilgiris.
„ Revenue Department.
„ Board of Revenue.
„ Public Works Department.
„ Accountant-General.
„ Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
„ Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
„ Director of Public Instruction.
„ President, District Board, Nilgiris.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

No 2195 w a/ 17th August/87

Communicated to

the Supy. Engineer IV

Circle.

/ Sd/ Illegible

by.

Govt. of {1887} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 18th July 1887, No. 672 M.

Rec 2195 w a/17th August/87

JULY.

L. G. IV b

Engr. Br. A

Municipal Report.

Reviewing the Ootacamund — for 1886-87.

With order

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From W. E. SCHMIDT, Esq., Chairman, Municipal Council, Ootacamund, to the Chief Secretary to Government (through the Collector of Nílgiris), dated Ootacamund, 15th May 1887, No. 417.

I have the honor to submit the following reports and statements in connection with the administration of the Ootacamund Municipality for the year 1886-87 :—

I. The prescribed Statements I to VI with Appendices.
II. Copy of the Report of the Deputy Inspector of Schools.
III. Copy of the Report of the Senior Medical Officer.

2. Including the opening balance of Rs. 4,550-9-8, the total receipts of the year amount to Rs. 92,877-7-0 and the expenditure to Rs. 67,979-14-6, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 24,897-8-6 which is exclusive of deposits, and is made up as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Municipal cash balance proper	14,676	4	9
Municipal market loan balance, for which sum the Bank of Madras gave the municipal council credit on the 31st March 1887	10,221	3	9
Total	24,897	8	6

3. The total receipts from taxation amount to Rs. 39,734-7-1, against an estimate of Rs. 36,840 and Rs. 31,872 the actuals of the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 2,894-7-1 over the revised estimate figures. The actuals of the last three years are as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
1884-85	32,067	0	0
1885-86	31,872	0	0
1886-87	39,734	0	0

(*a*) *Rates on Houses and Lands.*—

Revised estimate, 1886-87	27,360	0	0
Actuals, 1886-87	30,667	7	1
Increase over estimate ..	3,307	7	1

The actuals of the last three years are as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
1884-85	23,411	0	0
1885-86	23,146	0	0
1886-87	30,667	0	0

It will be noticed that the current collections on account of houses and lands are Rs. 22,783-2-11 and Rs. 3,189-11-0, respectively, which far exceed the collections of any previous years.

(*b*) *Tax on Arts.*—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Revised estimate, 1886-87	4,970	0	0
Actuals, 1886-87	4,566	12	0
Decrease under estimate ..	403	4	0

The actuals of the past three years are as follows :—

	Rs.
1884-85	4,402
1885-86	4,178
1886-87	4,567

The increase under this head is due to improved collections.

(*c*) *Tax on Vehicles and Animals.*—

	Rs.
Estimate for 1886-87	3,700
Actuals for "	3,521
Decrease under estimate ..	179

The actuals of the past three years are as follows :—

	Rs.
1884-85	3,407
1885-86	3,572
1886-87	3,521

4. *Contributions from Provincial Funds.*—The total receipts under this head amount to Rs. 18,723-13-3, of which Rs. 12,000 were for the annual contribution on account of extra charges for *conservancy*, sanctioned in G.O., No. 347 F., dated 28th April 1886; Rs. 4,700 for the maintenance of station roads, sanctioned in G.O., No. 1830 F., dated 8th August 1884; Rs. 1,000 for improvements to Hobart Park, sanctioned in G.O., No. 24 F., dated 9th January 1885; Rs. 120 being the annual contribution for the upkeep of the Agraharam chattram, sanctioned in G.O., No. 446 F., dated 25th February 1884; two further sums of Rs. 617-13-3 and Rs. 286 were received from the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, for the completion of the improvement to the Commercial road and for sinking a well on Lower bazaar road.

5. *Income from Markets.*—The total income derived from the market amounted to Rs. 7,186-8-2, against Rs. 7,010 the provision in the revised estimate, and Rs. 4,413 the actuals of the previous year. The amount realised from market stall rents is Rs. 3,911-14-0. The increase over the previous year's collections is due to stall rents being collected for five months only in the previous year, from November 1885, the date of completion of the market buildings.

6. *Rent of other Buildings.*—The income derived from this source amounted to Rs. 5,254-11-6, against Rs. 5,240 provided in the revised estimate, and Rs. 5,721 the actuals of the previous year. The slight increase over the estimate calls for no special remarks; while the decrease under the previous year's figures has already been explained to Government in paragraph II of letter of Collector to the Chief Secretary to Government, No. 13, dated 27th January 1887, and is the result of the small amounts bid for the bandy-stand and slaughter-house tolls at the anual auction sales.

7. *Payments for Municipal Services.*—The income from this source of revenue amounted to Rs. 4,968-3-0, against a revised estimate provision of Rs. 4,800 and Rs. 4,682 the actuals of the previous year. The increase is due to improved collections.

8. *Miscellaneous.*—The receipts under this head amount to Rs. 1,451-8-4, which sum is made up as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Sale of poudrette	369	0	0
Sale of measures	21	12	0
Sale of old tools and plant	71	4	9
Sale of Acts and Bye-laws	3	12	0
Certain unadjusted deposits accruing for several years transferred from deposit account and petty receipts	985	11	7
Total ..	1,451	8	4

9. *Loans.*—The amount received under this head on account of the new market supplemental loan of Rs. 10,000, sanctioned in G.O., No. 1033 M., dated 9th October 1886, was Rs. 9,907.

10. *Expenditure—Grant I, Public Works—New Works, &c.*—The total expenditure under this grant was Rs. 23,956-4-0, against a revised estimate of Rs. 34,890 and the actuals of the previous year Rs. 56,281. The decrease is owing to the balance due on account of the construction of the new market buildings not having been paid during the year, owing to the market contractors not submitting bills in accordance with the terms of the contract, and to small savings under the several minor heads of this grant. Under New Works, Miscellaneous, a sum of Rs. 3,192-13-1 was spent; Rs. 1,000 of which was contributed towards certain improvements to the Hobart Park on which the new Race-course is being constructed, and the balance on the improvement to the bandy-stand. The expenditure under "Repairs—Communications," was Rs. 13,441-0-1, and is distributed as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
(*a*) Station roads	4,689	3	4
(*b*) Municipal main roads	7,264	12	4
(*c*) Bridle roads	1,487	0	5
Total ..	13,441	0	1

The several other heads under this grant call for no special remarks.

11 *Grant II, Education.*—The expenditure under this grant amounted to Rs. 1,784-12-7, against the revised estimate provision of Rs. 2,220 and the actuals of the previous year Rs. 1,665.

Under "Salary Grants" Rs. 1,047 were paid against Rs. 997 the actuals of the previous year; an increase of Rs. 22-8-0 was allowed to the Roman Catholic boys' school by the municipal council. (*Vide* their Proceedings, No. V, dated 18th November 1886.) This school is a large and growing institution, and disseminates education amongst the poorest classes of natives in Ootacamund. The total amount of results grants earned was Rs. 313-8-0, against Rs. 334 the actuals of the previous year. A sum of Rs. 167-4-7 was spent on the Old Ootacamund school, which is maintained on the combined system.

12. *Grant III, Sanitation and Medical Services.*—The total expenditure under this grant is Rs. 22,527-6-5, against a revised estimate provision of Rs. 22,830 and Rs. 25,344-4-4 the actuals of the previous year.

The usual contribution of Rs. 500 was given to St. Bartholomew's hospital, and a summary of the working of this institution, as furnished by the medical officer of the station, is given below :—

(1) Average daily number of persons aided during 1886-87, *i.e.*, old and new cases attending or present in the hospital			70·40
(2) Number aided in the year—			
(*a*) Number of old patients continuing under treatment from the previous year			87
(*b*) Number of new admissions during the year			13,306
(3) Income—			
(*a*) From Government	Rs.	1,814 15	6
(*b*) Endowment—			
In land	"	..	
In money	"	..	
(*c*) Subscriptions and donations	"	3,006 15	1
(4) Nature of relief afforded—			
(*a*) In-door	No.		712
(*b*) Out-door	"		12,681
Total ..			13,393

Rupees 19, 243, and 243 were paid on account of the Reserve Medical staff, Medical College, and Sanitary inspection, respectively.

The expenditure under Vaccination and Registration of Rupees 292-9-5 and Rs. 170-3-7, respectively, remains the same as in the previous year. The cost of conservancy establishment amounted to Rs. 14,436-6-4, against Rs.14,557-1-5 the actuals of the previous year, and the decrease is due to small reduction being made during the off-season. Under Sanitary Service the expenditure amounted to Rs. 5,687-0-11, against Rs. 8,033-1-2 the actuals of the previous year. The saving under this head is due to economy being observed in the feeding of the conservancy cattle. The other items under this grant call for no special remarks.

13. *Grant IV, Miscellaneous.*—The total expenditure under this grant amounted to Rs. 6,427-4-2, against a revised estimate provision of Rs. 6,320 and Rs. 6,394-15-0 the actuals of the previous year. The expenditure under this grant calls for no special remarks.

14. *Grant V, General Establishment.*—The total expenditure under this grant amounted to Rs. 6,883-7-9, against a revised estimate provision of Rs. 6,960 and Rs. 6,199-7-11 the actuals of the previous year. The increase under this grant over the previous year's expenditure is due to the appointment of a secretary sanctioned in G.O., No. 374 M.F., dated 8th August 1885.

15. A sum of Rs. 614-7-10 was repaid to Government during the year, being the annual instalment due on account of the loan of Rs. 12,420, sanctioned by Government in their order, No. 1761, Financial Department, dated 3rd September 1875; and a further sum of Rs. 255-10-10, being the interest due upon the above loan at 4 per cent. In addition to the above, Rs. 3,000 were disbursed on account of interest, at 6 per cent., upon Rs. 50,000 the amount of municipal debentures; the loan having been sanctioned by Government in their order, No. 1992, dated 27th August 1884, Financial. A sum of Rs. 1,000 was invested in the Bank of Madras 4 per cent. fixed deposits. This sum is the second instalment (2 per cent. of the aggregate loan) for the liquidation of Rs. 50,000 in thirty years. The amount to the credit of the Sinking fund is now Rs. 2,040, as shown in note to statement II.

16. *Refunds.*—The total expenditure under this head amounted to Rs. 1,073-15-11, against Rs. 1,284 the actuals of the previous year, and Rs. 2,765-9-6 the expenditure in 1884-85. They were chiefly granted under section 72 of Act IV of 1884 for the vacancy of houses.

17. The number of members on the council was 15 instead of 16, owing to the resignation of Major A. C. Smith, the Executive Engineer, on his transfer from the district. Two other vacancies occurred, viz., that of Messrs. Abraham and Wapshore, their period of service as councillors having expired. The draft election rules embodied in G.O., No. 549 M., dated 11th June 1886, are to be put in force. An election of the two councillors will be held on the 19th instant, the result of which will be duly communicated to Government. The council was composed of the following proportions:—

Officials	4	Europeans	10
Non-officials	12	Natives	6

The number of meetings held during the year was twenty-seven, and the average attendance at each meeting is 6·7.

18. Several works of great importance were commenced during the year under review; the principal one being the establishment of a Race-course in the Hobart Park. Such an institution, while affording recreation to a large portion of the community, will benefit in no small measure the trade of the town during a portion of the year. Full particulars regarding this important work have been submitted to Government in my letter, No. 332, dated 26th April 1887, and therefore do not require any further explanation.

A raised footpath is being constructed by the Public Works Department from Charing Cross to the Market. This will add to the convenience of foot-passengers and to the general appearance of the Commercial road. The thanks of the council are due to Government for this.

A large masonry cistern has also been constructed on Jail Hill in connection with the new water scheme, and it is hoped that it will be found useful after certain improvements to the neighbourhood have been effected.

The Public Works Department is also conserving the lower lake by clearing its banks of vegetation, and erecting a neat wire fencing all round the margin. This work was very much needed, and is appreciated both as a sanitary measure and the beauty it adds to that portion of the town. The triangular plot of grass with trees in front of Mr. Boesinger's shop was removed, and the space metalled. This has proved a great advantage, as it now renders the ingress and egress of vehicles to the public library perfectly safe.

The Adam Memorial Fountain is almost complete, and will add materially to the ornamentation of the public offices, in front of which it has been erected.

The council are deeply sensible of the great benefits that will result to the community at large by the completion of the north water-supply scheme. The work is now in active progress, and it is impossible to estimate too highly the value of the work and the liberality of Government in executing it.

The council are anxious to see two great and important works in Ootacamund undertaken. They are—

(1) The piping of the South or Dodabetta water-supply channel; and
(2) The drainage of Kandal.

All information regarding the former is already before Government. The great necessity for the latter cannot be too strongly urged. Kandal is the largest suburb of Ootacamund, and is daily increasing in size and population. It is impossible to maintain thorough cleanliness and enforce sanitary rules with the drainage that exists at present. A proposed system of stone-ware drains will transform this suburb into a healthy locality.

Plan and estimates for this important work are being prepared, and the cost, it is expected, will amount to at least 40,000 rupees. The council will do themselves the honor of again addressing Government on the subject.

The council feel competent to deal with the drainage of the small villages, such as Old Ootacamund, Thalayattimund, Koddappamund, and Vannarapet, from their own revenues. But the drainage of Kandal is quite beyond their present means.

19. It will be observed from the senior medical officer's report that the general health of the municipality during the year was good. A great deal of small-pox, however, was prevalent in the bazaars, and particularly in the village of Kandal, there being no less than forty-two deaths.

Government have been addressed under date 22nd February 1887, No. 121, in view to making vaccination compulsory in this municipality. The birth and death rate statistics are as follows:—

Births.

Months.		Europeans.	East Indians.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Total.
April	1886 ..	1	5	14	6	26
May	,, ..	1	1	26	1	29
June	,, ..	2	11	13	..	26
July	,, ..	1	5	30	3	39
August	,, ..	2	2	17	..	21
September	,, ..	1	..	18	2	21
October	,, ..	1	3	43	1	48
November	,, ..	..	3	25	2	30
December	,, ..	1	1	20	1	23
January	1887 ..	3	3	30	1	37
February	,, ..	..	..	27	..	27
March	,, ..	..	..	28	2	30
	Total ..	13	34	291	19	357

Deaths.

Months.		Small-pox.	Measles.	Fever.	Dysentery.	Diarrhœa.	Cholera.	All other causes.	Total.	Under one year and still-born.	1 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 30.	30 to 46.	40 to 50.	50 to 60.	Over 60.
April	1886	..	..	11	3	..	..	11	26	1	4	4	..	1	2	6	3	4	1
May	,,	..	..	19	1	1	..	14	36	7	8	1	..	2	5	1	4	3	1
June	,,	..	..	23	..	..	..	14	37	6	8	5	1	2	10	2	3	2	4
July	,,	..	..	25	..	..	..	20	45	6	12	..	2	..	6	3	6	4	6
August	,,	..	..	13	3	1	..	15	32	7	2	2	1	1	3	1	3	6	3
September	,,	..	2	2	3	..	..	12	22	14	4	..	2	1	4	2	1	1	2
October	,,	..	1	10	..	..	..	25	36	13	6	2	1	2	3	2	2	1	2
November	,,	..	2	11	..	..	..	9	27	10	4	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	2
December	,,	..	..	5	3	..	..	14	26	4	7	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	1
January	1887	..	..	6	1	..	..	13	29	7	3	3	..	2	3	2	2	3	1
February	,,	..	..	8	..	..	..	14	34	3	7	3	..	1	4	5	1	..	1
March	,,	..	..	5	..	..	..	11	27	1	3	3	..	..	2	1	2	..	1
Total		..	5	137	16	5	..	172	377	103	72	24	14	14	47	28	25	18	31

Vaccination Return from April 1886 to March 1887.

Months.		Total.			Result.			Total number of re-vaccinations.	Revaccinated successfully.	Under one year.			One to six.			Above six.		
		Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.			Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.
April	1886	59	55	2	2	60	55	3	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	22	21	1	..
May	,,	56	52	1	3	61	54	4	3	5	2	..	..	..	..	19	18	1	..
June	,,	53	50	1	2	56	52	2	2	3	2	..	..	..	..	21	19	1	1
July	,,	54	50	1	3	56	51	3	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	22	20	1	1
August	,,	55	51	2	2	55	51	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	26	21	1	4
September	,,	51	49	2	..	51	49	2	..	7	7	1	1	..	..	24	23	..	1
October	,,	45	42	1	2	52	49	2	1	3	3	..	..	..	..	6	6	..	..
November	,,	29	27	1	1	32	30	1	1	6	4	..	..	..	..	14	13	1	..
December	,,	39	38	1	..	47	42	3	2	3	1	..	..	..	..	16	16	..	..
January	1887	40	31	3	6	41	32	3	6	6	2	..	..	..	..	18	14	1	3
February	,,	45	40	2	3	47	42	3	2	3	3	..	..	..	..	36	33	2	1
March	,,	50	45	3	2	56	51	3	2	6	2	..	..	..	..	42	38	2	2
	Total	576	530	21	25	*614	558	28	28	38	28	4	1	1	2	266	245	10	11

Months.		Above six.			Total.			Unknown.
		Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.		Successful.	Unsuccessful.	
April	1886	21	18	..	16	16	..	..
May	,,	20	17	..	17	17	..	..
June	,,	13	12	..	19	19	..	..
July	,,	19	18	..	13	12	1	..
August	,,	18	17	..	11	10	1	..
September	,,	17	16	..	10	10	..	..
October	,,	26	23	..	13	13	..	..
November	,,	6	4	..	10	10	..	..
December	,,	10	10	..	13	12	1	..
January	1887	5	4	..	17	13	2	2
February	,,	4	4	..	5	3	..	2
March	,,	4	4	..	4	3	1	..
	Total	162	147	..	148	138	6	4

It will be noticed from the foregoing figures that the birth-rate per mille per annum is 28·8, while the death-rate is 30·49 or 3·39 over last year's. Excluding those deaths which occurred between the ages of 0 to 5 and over 60, the death-rate is reduced to 13·7 per mille. The exceptionally high death-rate this year may be attributed to the prevalence of small-pox which proved most fatal to children. The above figures point out to this conclusion, as omitting the deaths of children under 5, to the number of 175, and of persons over 60, to the number of 31, the death-rate per mille falls from 30·49 to 13·7, which is a decrease under the previous year's death-rate of 2·9 per mille.

20. The revised Ootacamund Municipal Bye-laws are still under the consideration of the council, and will be shortly submitted to Government.

21. The report of the Deputy Inspector of Schools is not embodied in this report, as it has not yet been received. It will be duly forwarded to Government.

22. Government, in their order, No. 354 M., dated 10th April 1886, have directed that the audit of the municipal accounts should be done by the Inspector of Local Fund Accounts. The audit for the year under review has not yet taken place. The audit figures will be submitted in due course.

23. The information and statements called for by Government, in paragraphs 9, 10, 17, 21, 36 and 47, of their order, No. 304 M., Local and Municipal, dated 31st March 1887, are in preparation, and will be duly submitted.

ENCLOSURE.

SANITARY Report of the Municipality of Ootacamund for the official year 1886-87.

The refuse is buried in an open place some three miles out of the town; the sweepings and other inoffensive rubbish is utilised in filling up pits and hollows in various localities. There are within the municipal limits seven villages, viz. Kandal, Kodappamund, Pudumund, Thalayattimund, Vannarapet, Bandy shola, and Manjanacorai, besides the Ootacamund town proper. There are in all 42 pucka-built latrines, and 150 private latrines, which are in a satisfactory condition, and are freely resorted to by the people. They are being daily cleaned and properly attended to. The slaughter-houses are thoroughly cleaned every day, and offensive matters removed and buried. There are for conservancy purposes two sanitary inspectors, four overseers, five maistries, twenty-five drivers and ninety sweepers; besides there are twelve night-soil and fourteen rubbish carts.

2. The quality of water is good, and supply abundant; there being two large reservoirs well conserved, one at Marlimund and the other at Dodabetta. The water from reservoirs is carried in open channels to the villages, houses, hotels, &c., that going to the main bazaar is piped from St. Stephen's Church till it reaches the filtering beds, which supplies three large covered masonry cisterns situated in convenient localities. The filtering beds are renewed periodically. There are a number of wells in private houses used for drinking purposes. The municipality maintain a separate establishment for water purposes, which consists of one inspector and four channel peons, whose duties are to regulate the supply, and keep channels clean.

3. The masonry drains in the bazaar and adjoining streets and alleys are excellent; but they require more frequent flushing. I have inspected these drains often, and it is exceptional to find them not in a very filthy state and smelling badly. The house drainage is as usual left to take care of itself, which it does by running out of a small aperture in the back walls of the houses, and stagnating in a putrid pool. A piped water-supply will shortly be in use here, the pipes having arrived from England, and it may be expected that this will improve the health of the town in every way, not only by giving plenty of pure water, but by providing the means of efficiently flushing the drains and sewers.

4. The health of the people during the year has been on the whole good; but chicken-pox, measles and small-pox were prevalent in parts of the town in an epidemic form. There were 357 births and 376 deaths. Everything has been on the same scale and footing as was in the previous year both in respect of conservancy and water-supply. The past season has been generally good.

OOTACAMUND,
14th May 1887.

(Signed) J. SMITH, Surgeon-Major,
Senior Medical Officer.

From L. R. BURROWS, Esq., Collector of Nilgiris, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 16th June 1887, No. 29.

I have the honor to submit the report of the chairman of the Ootacamund Municipal Council for the past official year 1886-87, with enclosures. The figures have been checked and found correct.

2. The variations, both under receipts and charges, are fully explained by the chairman.

3. With reference to paragraph 17 of the report, I beg to state that the names of the two councillors elected were submitted to Government on the 11th instant for publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, no objection having been made against their election under rule 35.

4. The orders of Government regarding compulsory vaccination, referred to in paragraph 19 of the report, have been received and were communicated to the municipality on the 18th ultimo.

5. The report of the Inspector of Schools, and the information and statements referred to in paragraphs 21 and 23, respectively, of the chairman's report, will be submitted as soon as they are received.

Order—dated 18th July 1887, No. 672 M., Local and Municipal.

The receipts and charges of the Ootacamund Municipality for 1886-87 are compared below with the budget and revised estimates for the year and the actuals of the previous year :—

Receipts.

	Actuals, 1885-86.	Budget, 1886-87.	Revised estimate, 1886-87.	Actuals, 1886-87.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Balance brought forward	15,843	2,660	4,550	4,551
Rates on Houses and Lands	23,145	23,350	27,360	30,667
Taxes on Arts	4,177	5,000	4,970	4,567
Taxes on Vehicles and Animals ..	3,572	3,700	3,700	3,521
Taxes on Carts	686	600	600	624
Licenses	291	320	210	355
Assignments by Government	19,820	17,920	18,820	18,724
Fines and Fees	544	700	950	1,008
Fees in Schools and Training Institutions	3	..	10	11
Income from Markets	4,413	7,000	7,010	7,186
Rent of other Buildings, Gardens, &c.	5,721	5,850	5,240	5,255
Payments for Municipal Services to private parties	4,682	4,800	4,800	4,968
Endowments, &c.	49	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	238	190	550	1,451
Loans	25,178	..	9,910	9,907
Advances Recovered	11	..	..	82
Total ..	1,08,373	72,090	88,680	92,877

Charges.

Grant I.				
New Works—				
Communications..	1,951	..	20	19
Buildings	32,357	500	12,210	1,780
Drainage	159	500	250	82
Water-supply	..	..	290	286
Miscellaneous	2,902	3,000	3,000	3,193

Charges—*cont.*

	Actuals, 1885-86.	Budget, 1886-87.	Revised estimate, 1886-87.	Actuals, 1886-87.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Repairs—				
Communications..	12,317	12,150	13,370	13,441
Buildings	669	900	400	157
Drainage	28	250	250	115
Water-supply	143	250	250	328
Miscellaneous	742	300	300	25
Establishment	4,152	4,150	4,150	4,121
Tools and Plant and Contingencies	761	250	300	309
Contribution to Local Funds ..	100	100	100	100
Grant II.				
Municipal Schools—				
On the salary-results system ..	94	200	200	167
Salary Grants	997	1,260	1,310	1,047
Results Grants	334	400	450	314
Inspection	240	240	240	240
Miscellaneous	..	..	20	17
Grant III.				
Hospitals and Dispensaries ..	1,000	550	550	500
Contributions to Government ..	702	510	510	505
Vaccination	314	320	320	292
Registration of Births and Deaths	160	180	180	170
Conservancy	23,168	21,920	21,270	21,060
Grant IV.				
Lighting	3,079	3,000	2,700	2,857
Markets	551	580	790	776
Choultries	120	120	120	120
Miscellaneous	2,645	2,610	2,710	2,674
Grant V.				
Supervision and Management ..	6,199	6,870	6,960	6,883
Repayment of Debt	6,464	4,900	4,840	4,870
Advances Recoverable	190	..	..	135
Refunds..	1,284	1,200	1,200	1,396
Balance	4,551	4,880	9,420	24,898
Total ..	1,08,373	72,090	88,680	92,877

Statement VI-B erroneously omits the closing balance and the grand total of expenditure. A sum of Rs. 2,236 has further been omitted from the item "Repayment of debt, &c.," under the actuals of 1885-86. In the above statement and in Statement II, the permanent advance of Rs. 30 made during the year is erroneously included under Refunds instead of under "Advances recoverable." The necessary corrections have been made in the foregoing abstract. It is presumed that the sum of Rs. 82, shown under "Advances recovered" in Statement I, relates to recoveries from advances made in previous years. Statement II shows that income-tax amounting to Rs. 322 has been paid from municipal funds; and from Statement II-B, it would appear that deduction has been made on this account from the salaries of the municipal subordinates liable to the tax. There is no necessity for including these transactions in the municipal accounts.

2. During the greater portion of the year under report, the office of chairman was held by Mr. W. E. Schmidt, a non-official councillor, who was elected by the council in July 1886. The Collector was in charge till then, as the Revenue divisional officer. On the 31st March last, the council consisted of 13 members, of whom 3 were officials and 10 (5 Europeans and 5 Natives) non-officials, all appointed by Government. Appendix A wrongly shows these numbers as 16, 4 and 12. The full number of seats on the council is 16, of which eight are intended to be ultimately

filled by election under rules sanctioned in G.O., 11th June 1886, No. 549 M. The council held 27 meetings during the year, which were attended by an average of 6·7 members (officials 1·5, and non-officials 5·2).

3. The opening balance was Rs. 4,551, and the current receipts amounted to Rs. 88,326, against Rs. 69,430 anticipated in the budget, and Rs. 84,130 in the revised estimate. The total expenditure was Rs. 67,979, and the year thus closed with a balance of Rs. 24,898, of which Rs. 14,677 belonged to ordinary municipal revenues and Rs. 10,221 to loan funds.

4. Excluding assignments by Government and loans, the actual municipal revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 59,695, the chief items of which were as follows :—Tax on buildings and lands, Rs. 30,667 ; tax on arts, Rs. 4,567 ; tax on vehicles and animals, Rs. 3,521 ; market and other rents, Rs. 12,441 ; and private scavengering fees, Rs. 4,968. The municipality derives no income from tolls. As compared with the revised estimate, there is an increase in the current receipts of Rs. 4,196, which occurs chiefly under the tax on buildings and lands, and is explained below.

5. The tax on buildings brought in Rs. 25,924 and that on lands Rs. 4,743, total Rs. 30,667, against Rs. 27,360 anticipated in the revised estimate. There was an increase of about Rs. 1,000 in the current demand under these taxes, due, apparently, to a revision of the registers, and the current collections, which amounted to 97·2 per cent. of the demand, showed a very marked improvement on previous years. Of the arrear demand of Rs. 5,640, only 83·2 per cent. was collected, but the balance (Rs. 700) has been written off, being apparently irrecoverable. For the collection of these taxes, 479 warrants were issued and 3 prosecutions were instituted, property being distrained in 81 cases and sold in 17. The statement showing the incidence of the tax on buildings and the information regarding the number of persons assessed to the tax on arts, promised in the last paragraph of the report, are awaited.

6. The current demand under the tax on arts (Rs. 4,368) shows an unexplained decrease, as compared with the previous year, of over Rs. 700, and of this reduced amount Rs. 202 had to be remitted on appeal, &c. The current collections were fair, being 93·2 per cent. of the demand, and the uncollected arrears have been written off, as in the case of the tax on buildings and lands.

7. The receipts from the tax on vehicles and animals remained almost stationary, being Rs. 3,521 against Rs. 3,572 in 1885-86.

8. Market rents yielded Rs. 7,186, against Rs. 7,010 in the revised estimate and Rs. 4,413 in 1885-86. The new market has been finished, and is open to the public. The report on its working promised along with other information, in the last paragraph of the chairman's letter, is awaited. "Rent of other buildings" came up to Rs. 5,255, and was derived chiefly from the slaughter-house and bandy-stand fees.

9. Fees for the private scavengering service amounted to Rs. 4,968, against Rs. 4,682 in 1885-86, the increase being ascribed to improved collections.

10. The regular grants made by Government to the Municipality consisted of Rs. 12,000 towards the maintenance charge of the sanitary establishment, Rs. 4,700 for roads, and Rs. 120 for the upkeep of the Agraharam chattram ; special grants amounting to Rs. 1,904 were also made during the year.

11. Certain old unadjusted deposits, amounting to Rs. 986, were credited to municipal funds, and this has swelled the miscellaneous receipts. It is presumed that further information as to this transaction will appear in the audit report.

12. A further loan of Rs. 10,000 for the completion of the municipal market was raised during the year, the net receipts being Rs. 9,907. The total amount borrowed for this purpose has been Rs. 60,000.

13. The incidence of taxation per head of the population was Rs. 3-3-6, against Rs. 2-9-4 in 1885-86, the increase being due to the improved collections noticed in paragraph 6 above. The general average (excluding tolls) for all municipalities in 1885-86 was Rs. 0-8-10.

14. The total expenditure amounted, as above stated, to Rs. 67,979, agains Rs. 79,260 anticipated in the revised estimate, and Rs. 1,03,822, the actuals of the previous year. It was distributed as shown below :—

	Rs.	Per cent.
Grant I—Public Works	23,956	35·3
„ II—Education	1,785	2·6
„ III—Sanitation and Medical Services	22,527	33·1
„ IV—Lighting and Miscellaneous	6,427	9 5
„ V—Supervision and Management	6,883	10·1
Interest and repayment of debt, advances and refunds ..	6,401	9·4
Total ..	67,979	100·0

15. The outlay on public works fell short of the revised estimate by Rs. 10,914, owing chiefly to the final payment on account of the new market buildings having been made in the current year, instead of during 1886-87 as was expected. Certain improvements were also made during the year to the bandy stand and the Hobart Park, at a cost of Rs. 2,030 and Rs. 1,143, respectively, but it does not appear that the estimates for these works and the past expenditure on the latter are correctly given in Statement II-A. The diversion of part of the funds allotted towards the original Hobart Park improvement scheme to the establishment of a race-course will be dealt with in a separate order. The portion of the Mettupálaiyam-Gúdalúr road within municipal limits remained, as usual, in charge of the Public Works Department. The other roads in the town were repaired at a cost of Rs. 13,441. The Public Works establishment, which includes an Engineer on Rs. 200 per mensem, cost Rs. 4,121. It appears that the Engineer's clerk was paid at the rate of Rs. 30 per mensem for eight months, instead of Rs. 25 as sanctioned by Government. The reason for this should be explained.

16. The educational expenditure was Rs. 1,785, against Rs. 1,665 in 1885-86. Rs. 167 were spent on municipal schools, Rs. 1;361 on aided institutions, and Rs. 257 on inspection and miscellaneous. There was one primary school maintained by the council on the salary results system, which appears to have been closed at the end of the year ; two middle schools were aided on the salary system ; and one middle and two primary schools on the results system. Besides these, there are ten schools in the town which receive no aid from the municipality. The Deputy Inspector's report on the working of the aided schools, and on the state and progress of education in the town, should be expedited.

17. The usual contribution of Rs. 500 was paid to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, in which 712 in and 12,681 out patients were treated, against 970 and 12,887, respectively, in 1885-86. A sum of Rs. 243 was also paid to Government as contribution for sanitary inspection.

18. The number and cost of vaccine operations, and the number of births and deaths registered during the year, are shown below :—

—	Number of vaccine operations.	Average cost of each.	Births.	Rate per mille.	Deaths.	Rate per mille.
		Rs. A. P.				
1885-86	631	0 7 11	370	29·9	333	26·9
1886-87	614	0 7 7	357	28·9	377	30·6

Vaccination has, since the close of the year, been made compulsory. Measles and small-pox prevailed during the year in portions of the town, and 47 deaths were due to these causes. The total deaths are entered as 377 in the first of the death tables given in paragraph 19 of the chairman's letter, whereas in the second table and in the medical officer's report the number is given as 376. The discrepancy should be explained.

19. Conservancy continued to be the largest item of expenditure in this municipality. The outlay thereon was Rs. 21,060, against Rs. 23,168 in 1885-86, the decrease being due to savings effected. The completion of the north water-supply scheme, which is being carried out by the Public Works Department, is now in active progress. The council's proposals regarding the south water-supply scheme and the drainage of Kandal should be made the subject of separate communications. The medical officer's remarks regarding the cleansing of drains and the neglect of house-drainage should receive the special attention of the council during the current year.

20. The lighting of the town cost Rs. 2,857, against Rs. 3,079 in 1885-86. The cost of the water-works establishment and contingencies (Rs. 998), and printing charges (Rs. 769), have swelled the miscellaneous charges under Grant IV, while the entertainment of a Secretary on Rs. 50 a month contributed to raise the establishment charges to the high figure of Rs. 6,885. The clerical establishment of four clerks is very strong. Details of the collection establishment maintained by the council should have been given in Statement II-B. Its members appear to have received a commission of 5 per cent. on the collections in addition to their pay. This seems excessive, and explanation is desired.

21. The municipal debt on the 31st March 1887 amounted to Rs. 66,955, against which there was a sinking fund of Rs. 2,040. During the year, Rs. 3,256 were paid as interest, and Rs. 1,614 in liquidation of debt. The following statement shows the financial position of the municipality on the above date :—

Assets.

	Rs.
Cash balance	24,898
Sinking fund	2,040
Value of premises	75,000
Advances	25
Total ..	1,01,963

Liabilities.

Balance of loans	66,955

Under Liabilities should be entered the payment of some 10,000 rupees due on account of the market on 31st March.

The outstanding advances at the close of the year being Rs. 135, as shown in Statement II, it should be explained why only Rs. 25 are shown in the note to this statement.

(True Extract.)

for Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Chairman, Municipal Council, Ootacamund.
through the Collector of Nilgiris.
" Revenue Department.
" Board of Revenue.
" Public Works Department.
" Accountant-General.
" Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
" Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" President, District Board, Nilgiris.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Govt. of {1887} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

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G.O., 18th July 1887, No. 672 M.

JULY.

Municipal Report.

Reviewing the Ootacamund — for 1886-87.