M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 811 — Press / ~~Mis.~~

177. 180

Dated 11. 4. 1861.

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

## *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,* 11*th April* 1861.

Read the following letters:—

No. 177. From Major H. W. WAPSHARE, Secretary to the Ootacamund Improvement Committee, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 21st January 1861, No. .

SIR,

I have the honor to submit for the information of Government the report of the Ootacamund Improvement Committee for the Quarter ending 31st of December last.

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*Report for the Quarter ending 31st December* 1860.

I. In submitting their Quarterly Report to the end of 1860, the Committee purpose dividing it under different heads as in the Report for the last Quarter.

SEWERAGE.

II. The Committee have not received any further communication on this subject from the District Engineer. The changes now in progress in that Department will probably account for the delay which has occurred. The recently appointed District Engineer has not yet joined the Committee; on his doing so it is hoped that the scheme decided on will be carried out.

DRAINAGE.

III. The drain at the bottom of the swampy tract extending from below the Church eastward towards the Engineer's Office is yet in an unfinished state; the swamp must be allowed to bleed out gradually before the work can be completed.

2. The result of the examination of the site of the proposed bridge at the Willow Bund is not very favorable; an Iron bar has been put down with ease to a depth of 13 feet below the surface of the water of the Lake, and therefore the previously contemplated site requires to be changed, nor can one be decided on until the question of the bazar drain, with which the bridge will be connected, is set at rest.

3. The Estimate directed (as mentioned in paragraph 4 of last Quarter's Report) to be made for the timber bridge at the Willow Bund has consequently not yet been finished, and neither has that for the proposed drain for the reason stated by the Assistant Engineer, viz., that he cannot frame it, until the whole line *throughout* which it is to run, has been determined.

4. The Committee have completed the purchase of seven lots in the lower street of the bazar for Rupees eight hundred and fifty-five (855), but the other three remain in abeyance, one the site of a small temple, on account of the exorbitant sum asked, another for a similar reason and also from defectiveness of title, and the third owing to a refusal of the terms offerred by the Committee. So far as these properties are concerned the Committee have obtained a portion of the ground necessary for any line of drainage which may eventually be decided on; but before they can proceed to settle the point they will have to acquire other properties, situated similarly on the margin of the Lake, whose value far exceeds the sum at their disposal.

5. The Committee can only give an approximate estimate of what the value is, but they assume that the whole remaining property may be acquired for an aggregate of Rupees seven thousand (Rupees 7,000) and considering the important object which this drainage is intended to effect, and more especially under the vitally important considerations which are involved in a representation made by Dr. Mackay and of which the Committee will presently treat, it is earnestly hoped that the Government will be induced to sanction an immediate advance of the sum abovementioned on the terms laid down in the order of Government, 4th May 1860, No. 715.

STATE OF HEALTH AT OOTACAMUND.

IV. The Committee have received an interesting letter from Dr. Mackay, Senior Medical Officer of the station (copy marked A. B. annexed), which has a very material bearing on the desireableness of speedily carrying out the object alluded to in the foregoing paragraph.

*Letter.*

*Mortuary Return.*

2. This letter specially alludes to the mortality in the station bazar during the last six months of 1860.

3. It will be seen that while only 2 deaths occurred in the upper street of the bazar and 5 in the middle, no less than 21 persons fell victims to disease in the lower street situated on the margin of the Lake.

4. The Committee regret that they have no Returns which would give the population of the Residents on these different localities, but although the number of inhabitants in the upper street is small in comparison with the others, it is a fact familiar to their personal knowledge that the residents in the middle street very largely out-number those in the lower one; and consequently the ratio of mortality between these two latter rises to an alarming proportion, in respect to the deaths which have actually occurred in the lower street during the past six months. It becomes therefore an object of great importance, even in a simply humane point of view, that Natives should be discouraged from dwelling in such a locality; and when to this is added the consideration, that the removal of these houses for the purpose of completing a general drain, and of allowing a free circulation of air along the borders of the Lake, would eminently conduce to the general health of the Station, the Committee would still more earnestly press upon the Government the request they have already made to have the means placed at their disposal for finally removing them.

### Land Surveyed.

V. Little or nothing has been done to the *General Survey* of the Station as explained in the Committee's communication of the 24th of December 1860. About 20 acres have been surveyed on the application of different parties.

### Sales.

VI. A public sale was held on the 6th of October 1860, the following lots were sold and realized as follows, viz:—

| | Acres. | Roods. | Perches. | Sq. yds. | Rs |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lot 1..... | 9 | 2 | 12 | 3 | .....100 |
| Lot 2..... | 0 | 1 | 36 | 15¾ | ..... 6 |
| | | | | Total... | 106 |

### Allotments of Land.

VII. The Committee or some of its members have inspected and lotted out such portions of land as have been applied for by various persons; on this head they beg to refer Government to their Proceedings accompanying their letter of 24th ultimo.

### Ornamental Improvements.

VIII. Rose cuttings to the extent of 741 lineal yards have been planted round the Lake on the west side, and 46 trees have been planted. The whole have been constantly watered and watched, to prevent the destruction caused by cattle. The plants have been protected from the frost and are thriving well, only one plant having failed.

The Rose cuttings supplied by Mr. Rohde are also thriving fairly. Three hundred and forty feet of fence have been built; 741 feet have been capped with sod and banked with clay; 579 yards of trench have been dug, 3 feet wide by 2 deep, and filled in with manure; 343 yards of drain, 5 feet by 2, have been opened in the swamp near the Engineer's Office; 57 yards of drain, 3 feet by 3, have been opened in the swamp at the west end of the Lake.

### Roads.

IX. The road round the west side of the Lake has been widened one yard and in some places two yards, which is a great improvement.

The Committee have directed a road to be made connecting the bazar with the road running along the northern portion of the Lake.



### Secretary's Duties, &c., &c.

X. Major Wapshare has during the past Quarter relieved Mr. Nesbitt from the duties of Secretary.

2. The Committee regret that they will in a few days be deprived of the valuable aid of their colleague Dr. Mackay, and request that Government will be pleased to appoint one of the Medical Officers of the Station as a member of their body.

3. The Committee are endeavouring to obtain the services of a Surveyor competent to Survey under an Assistant Engineer.

4. The Committee are constrained to say that the *General Survey* can never be satisfactorily completed to the arrangement of existing disputes and the prevention of future ones if left in the hands of Mr. Sub-Engineer Williams, for, as already explained to Government, they have cause to doubt his efficiency in the first place; and secondly, they cannot but see a great bar to the accurate perfection of the *General Plan* in his being employed on it. His *own* former work thus having to be examined and corrected by himself.

### Supply of Firewood.

XI. The Committee do not deem that a question of this kind comes properly within their cognizance; and they only allude to it here, because the Collector of Coimbatore has officially brought under their consideration (*vide* his letter in Appendix C) the expediency of allotting Rupees one thousand (Rs. 1,000) from the funds at their disposal for the construction of roads to connect certain Sholas with Ootacamund, in view to facilitate a supply of suitable firewood being introduced. The Committee have felt bound to answer this application in the negative for the reason above given; but the Collector refers to a certain Order of the Government, dated 19th November 1860, No. 2,179, as establishing the spirit in which it desires that the Committee should act, and, as the said Order has never been communicated to them, the Committee would beg the favor of being furnished with a copy of it.

### Conclusion.

XII. In conclusion the Committee would explain with reference to paragraph 9 of the Order of Government, 24th November 1860, that it was not their intention that the language used in paragraph 10 of their Report for the Quarter ending September 1860, should lead to the inference that they looked on the three thousand (3,000) Rupees (received from Government) as a donation, as they were well aware that the sum in question was granted as a loan to be repaid out of the first receipts for land sold: and in fact the Government will observe from the accounts herewith annexed that the proceeds of all lands sold by them have already been paid over to the Collector in part liquidation of advances already received.

ACCOUNTS.

The accounts of the Committee which are made up for the whole year are as follows :—

*Receipts.*

| | | Rs. | A. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| May 17th..... | From Collector..... | 1,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Sept. 6th..... | Sale of Taylor lane..... | 308 | 0 | 0 |
| Oct. 6th..... | From Basham for land..... | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| ,, | ,, Mr. Johnson ,, ..... | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Nov. 15th..... | ,, Collector..... | 1,000 | 0 | 0 |
| ,, 28th..... | Sale of materials of house purchased... | 143 | 0 | 0 |
| | Fees received from applicants for land. | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| | Total..... | 2,565 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2,019 | 1 | 9 |
| | | 51514 | 3 | |

*Disbursements.*

| | | Rs. | A. | P. | Rs. | A. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| July..... | Paid through Mr. Dawson, for carting manure..... | 25 | 11 | 0 | | | |
| ,, ..... | Mr. Brosnahan for coolies..... | 32 | 15 | 7 | | | |
| ,, ..... | ,, ..... | 198 | 15 | 10 | | | |
| | Repairing Office..... | 107 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Oct. 22nd..... | Paid Mr. Brosnahan for coolies for September..... | 187 | 2 | 6 | | | |
| Nov. 10th..... | Do. for October..... | 145 | 10 | 10 | | | |
| Dec. 10th..... | Do. for November ... | 28 | 4 | 0 | | | |
| | Do. for December ... | 15 | 10 | 0 | | | |
| | Paid for houses in the lower street..... | 865 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | Press..... | 8 | 12 | 0 | | | |
| | Paid Collector, proceeds of land sales in liquidation of advance..... | 414 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | Total..... | | | | 2,019 | 1 | 9 |

(Signed) W. H. WAPSHARE, Major,
*Secretary to the Improvement Committee Ootacamund.*

OOTACAMUND,
*21st January* 1861.



From Assistant Surgeon G. MACKAY, M.D., Senior Medical Officer, Neilgherries, to Major W. H. WAPSHARE, Secretary to the Ootacamund Improvement Committee, dated Ootacamund, 5th January 1861.

SIR,

1. I have long wished to be able to draw up a Periodical Mortuary return for the Native population in Ootacamund. Lately I have been favored with monthly statements from W. S. Nesbitt, Esq., Assistant Magistrate, which have enabled me to make out a report for the last half year, to be forwarded to the Principal Inspector General Medical Department. You may be aware that previous to the formation of the Improvement Committee I made frequent representations regarding the sanatory improvements required in this Station. And as a member of your Committee I have strongly and repeatedly urged, the necessity of improving the lower part of the bazar. One of the chief objects I have had in view in drawing up Mortuary Returns has been to show the relative mortality in different localities, and I now beg to enclose one of the tabular statements from my Report, in which this is shown, for the last six months.

2. As regards the bazar you will observe that I have divided it into three streets, which I have named upper, main (or middle), and lower. And the table shows that the mortality increases in a wonderful ratio from above downwards in these three localities, the numbers being as follows :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Deaths in the upper street..... | 2 |
| Do. main or middle....: | 5 |
| Do. lower... ..... | 21 |

The Main street is undoubtedly much the most populous, yet the deaths in the lower street have been four times as numerous, which strongly bears out the view I have always taken of its insalubrity. It may be said that the inhabitants there are of a poorer class, but this will not account for the enormous increased ratio of mortality. The causes I feel convinced are those which I have hitherto pointed out, namely, the want of proper drainage, many of the houses there being built on soil formed from the refuse thrown out from the houses above, and the filth washed down by the rains from the upper streets.

3. These facts will I trust induce the Committee to hasten the improvement proposed in the hopes of remedying the evil.

4. The data I have been able to collect are not sufficient to enable me to draw any important conclusions ; with regard to other localities in the Station, but I look to important results on this and other points, from these returns being accurately kept up by my successors, I would, however, also draw the attention of the Committee to the mortality in the village of Condul, there 17 deaths have occurred. Considering the population this number is small, when compared with the lower bazar street yet it indicates the necessity of improvements being made in that locality also.

5. You will oblige me by laying this letter and the accompanying table before the Improvement Committee and obtaining their sanction to record them.

*Deaths of Males and Females from different causes among Native*

| Causes of Death. | July. Males. Place of Residence. | | | | | | August. Males. Place of Residence. | | | | | | September. Males. Place of Residence. | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Upper Bazar street. | Lower Bazar street. | Matoocherry. | Kandal. | Koduppa Mund. | Talayuttee Mund. | Main street Bazar. | Upper Bazar. | Kandal. | Koduppa Mund. | Poodoo Mund. | Talayuttee Mund. | Lower Bazar street. | Kandal. | Koduppa Mund. | Poodoo Mund. | Talayuttee Mund. | Kulhutty. |
| Specified causes ... ... ... | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Causes not specified... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| All causes ... ... ... ... | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| I. Zymotic Diseases... ... | ... | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | ... | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... |
| *Constitutional Diseases.* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| II. Diseases of uncertain or variable seat ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| III. Tubercular Diseases... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| *Local Diseases.* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IV. Diseases of the Nervous system ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| V. Diseases of the Organs of Circulation ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| VI. Diseases of the Respiratory Organs... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| VII. Diseases of the Digestive Organs ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| VIII. Diseases of the Urinary Organs ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| IX. Diseases of the Organs of Generation ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| X. Diseases of the Organs of Locomotion ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| XI. Diseases of the Integumentary System... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Diseases of growth, Nutrition and Decay... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| XII. Malformation... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| XIII. Permature Birth and Debility ... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| XIV. Atrophy... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| XV. Age ... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| XVI. Sudden deaths (causes unascertained) ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| XVII. Violent causes ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Total.. | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1. Cholera ... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | *1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Fevers ... ... ... ... ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... |
| Small Pox... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Measles... ... ... ... ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Diarrhœa ... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Dysentery ... ... ... ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... |
| 2. Dropsy ... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 3. Phthisis... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| 6. Bronchitis... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Pneumonia ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| 7. Colica... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 14. Atrophy... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 17. Drowning... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | .. | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Total... | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

* Arrived as a cooly from Paulghat, and was attacked the next day.

OOTACAMUND,
*5th January* 1861.



B.

*Inhabitants at Ootacamund, from 1st July to 31st December* 1860.

| October. Males. Place of Residence. | | | November. Males. Place of Residence. | | | | December. Males. Place of Residence. | | | | July. Females. Place of Residence. | August. Females. Place of Residence. | | | September. Females. Place of Residence. | | | October. Females. Place of Residence. | November. Females. Place of Residence. | | December. Females. Place of Residence. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Main street Bazar. | Lower Bazar street. | Matoocherry. | Main street. Bazar. | Lower Bazar street. | Vunnarpettah. | Poollutachee Mund. | Main street Bazar. | Lower Bazar street. | Kandul. | Civil Hospital. | Lower Bazar street. | Lower Bazar street. | Kandul. | Koduppa Mund. | Old Ooty. | Talayuttee Mund. | Kulhutty. | Kandul. | Vunarpettah. | Kandul. | Lower Bazar street. | Kandul. |
| 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | ... | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 3 | ... | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | 1 |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | .. | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | .. | ... | .. | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | ..... | ... | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | .. | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| .. | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 4 | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ..... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | .. | ... | .. | ... | .. | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | ... | 1 | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | 1 | ... | .... | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .... | 1 | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | .. | 2 | 3 | ... | 6 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

(Signed) GEORGE MACKAY, M. D.,
*Senior Medl. Officer Neilgherries.*

(A true Copy.)
(Signed) W. H. WAPSHARE, Major,
*Secretary Ootacamund Improvement Committee.*

C.

From E. B. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to W. S. NESBITT, Esq., Secretary to the Improvement Committee Ootacamund, dated Coimbatore, 6th December 1860, No. 358.

SIR,

1. My absence from Ootacamund prevents my attending any late meetings of the Improvement Committee. I beg therefore, to propose for consideration and vote, a measure which I think would essentially and immediately tend to the *general* benefit of the *whole* community, both European and Native; and there can be no doubt that Sir Charles Trevelyan who appointed us, meant *both* to be considered.

2. On all sides the complaint continues, of the scarcity of fuel at Ootacamund. As the cold season comes on, this will be more and more felt. I think 1,000 of the funds at our disposal, could not be better applied, than by placing them at the disposal of the Conservator of Neilgherri Forests, to open up, as he may decide on due consideration, access for Bullocks or Carts to some of the dead wood available, but now inaccessible, at moderate distances from Ootacamund, and thus facilitate and cheapen a supply to the whole community, of this necessary of life, it meets the wish of Government as expressed in paragraph 9 of Government Order, 19th November 1860, No. 2,179, as I fear the Chief Engineer will not find it in his power to allot from any other fund.

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No. 178. From Major W. H. WAPSHARE, Secretary to the Ootacamund Improvement Committee, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 8th February 1861.

SIR,

1. I had the honor on the 22nd ultimo, to forward for submission to Government the Report of the Ootacamund Improvement Committee for the Quarter ending the 31st December 1860.

2. The draft of the Report had been furnished to the President (who was not present at the meeting when it was passed by a majority of the Committee) eight days previous to its being so forwarded, but was not noticed then by him in consequence of illness and a press of business.

3. On the 1st instant, I received from the President of the Committee the accompanying Minute which he has requested may be transmitted to the Government; and under the instructions of the Committee I now do so without delay, leaving to a future communication any explanations which may be brought under our notice relative to the impeachment of facts which Mr. Thomas' Minute contains.

4. At the same time the Committee feel called upon at once to remark, that in assuming that disease is ascribed solely to the lower street of the bazar being a low lying locality, Mr. Thomas is in error. This lower street is formed chiefly of refuse thrown upon swampy land, and necessarily receives much of the filthy drainage of the upper bazar. The circumstances of Mr. Wilson's, Mr. Hallock's, and others' children, who live in low lands simply, bears therefore no analogy to the case of the tenants of the lower street of the bazar.

5. They must also further observe that when Mr. Thomas' remarks upon its not being shown that the causes of the deaths in the lower bazar street, resulted from diseases incidental to such a locality, it on the contrary appears from the tabular statement that 14 out of the 21 deaths recorded arose from "Zymotic diseases," or precisely those which would naturally prevail there.

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MEMORANDUM.

1. I regret to differ from Dr. Mackay's views and opinion of 5th instant, but (with the original statistics, on which he founds them, before me) I cannot arrive at the same strong conclusion. In the first place I find, on careful inquiry, that the six months Mortuary Returns, were very carelessly and irregularly prepared by the Native Monegar, unchecked by the Curnum



or Tahsíldár, and merely passed on, they are not reliable, and if they were, in one main point (the streets of the *upper* and *lower* bazars, on which Dr. Mackay chiefly insists), the Return is against Dr. Mackay's view? He must have misread some portion of the accounts. The original Return is:—

Upper bazaar street..... ..... 9
Lower do. do. close to the Lake only 6

and if Kandul and other low localities give a larger rate of deaths, it is, I think, greatly if not entirely explained by those localities being used only by the poorer class, coolies, &c., ill-fed, ill-clothed, huts in bad order, few fires, &c. Moreover to make Dr. Mackay's view correct, it should also be shown that the deaths he adduces were from "low" causes, such as ague, fever, rheumatism, &c., as I have before me are those of Wilson, Hallock, Hubbard, Hopkins, Brown and other Europeans and East Indians, who have *long* lived low down, near the Lake. I only desire to *guard* against erroneous theory and conclusions, drawn from imperfect data, and at variance with clear *facts*. I believe the Ootacamund bazaar (however susceptible of improvement) to be in its present state, as healthy, and more so, than any other of like size.

2. I am unable to concur in the idea of the Committee that there is really *any* want of "free circulation of air" in any part of Ootacamund; nor likely really to affect the salubrity of this cold and fine climate.

3. I see no necessity for a *re-survey* of the Station for any practical object. As regards Mr. Sub Engineer Williams, the Committee are in error; the Survey of the Station now officially recognized and in use, *was not* made by Mr. Williams (whether it be correct or not), but Messrs. McMahon and under Captain Ouchterlony's immediate supervision and responsibility. It may be therefore presumed to be substantially correct; *if* there be any errors, it is not fair to put them on Mr. Williams, and as Mr. Williams does not see our Proceedings, I say thus much in justice to him.

(Signed) E. B. THOMAS,
*President of Improvement Committee.*

(A true Copy.)

(Signed) W. H. WAPSHARE, Major,
*Secretary to the Ootacamund Improvement Committee.*

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No. 179. From Major W. H. WAPSHARE, Secretary to the Ootacamund Improvement Committee, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 2nd March 1861.

SIR,

1. In continuation of my letter of the 8th February last, forwarding a Minute by the President of the Ootacamund Improvement Committee, on our Report for the last Quarter, and on Dr. Mackay's communication and tabular statement of deaths in the Ootacamund bazar which accompanied that Report, I have now the honor by desire of the Committee to transmit for submission to the Government, copy of a letter from Dr. Mackay, dated 20th February, and also that of a Memorandum by Mr. Nesbitt, late Assistant Magistrate, dated 28th idem.

2. As the Government may desire an opinion of the Committee to be expressed while transmitting these communications, I am instructed to say that after allowing for the trifling inaccuracies that cannot fail to creep into statements such as these Mortuary Returns when compiled by inexperienced persons, and after an examination of the original papers, the Committee find Dr. Mackay to have been substantially correct in his Report made to them; and they have further to add that the Returns in question are found to be signed and authenticated by the highest Native officials, viz., the Tahsíldár, and Cutwal.

3. Mr. Nesbitt's Memorandum goes to show that the Cutwal took an active part in preparing them, *i. e.*, in collecting the information on which the Returns were based; and the Committee cannot understand how such a functionary as the *Tahsíldár* can have been ignorant or neglectful of what was implied by his signature to an official document obtained for an official purpose.

From GEORGE MACKAY, Esq., M.D., late Member of the Ootacamund Improvement Committee, to Major W. H. WAPSHARE, Secretary to the Ootacamund Improvement Committee, dated Madras, 20th February 1861.

SIR,

1. Having been favored with a copy of a Minute by the President of your Committee, on my Mortuary Returns showing the deaths among the Native inhabitants at Ootacamund during the half year ending 31st December 1860, I beg to offer the following remarks.

2. The original Monthly Returns from which my tabular statement was made were left by me among the records of the Ootacamund Civil Hospital. A reference to them will at once show whether I have misread any portion of them as stated by Mr. Thomas.

3. These Returns when furnished to me were signed by the Cutwal, the Tahsíldár, and the Assistant Collector. Mr. Thomas remarks that they were "carelessly and irregulary prepared," seems to me a serious accusation against these officials.

They were made out without any knowledge on the part of the Native authorities of the use I intended to make of them, and are I think more likely to be correct, than any information obtained by the Collector on the subject, at a subsequent period, and after the Native officials were aware of his object in making the inquiries. Further to guard as far as possible against, error, on the receipt of each Monthly Return I employed a turstworthy Medical Subordinate to make personal inquiries regarding the nature of the cases, particularly where the Medical nomenclature employed was ambiguous.

4. The President has certainly misread my Report, for he seems to think that I attribute the mortality in the bazar street bordering on the Lake to its being low. I have never alluded to such a cause, but have distinctly stated others which I think more than sufficient to account for it. A reference to my Report will show that the causes I have named are entirely local. The healthiness of the European families mentioned by Mr. Thomas, has nothing whatever to do with the question, for although their dwellings are on low ground, they are not in the bazar, and not influenced by the causes I have pointed out as affecting the mortality of the lower street.

5. Whatever the President may mean by "low causes" of disease, he is certainly very unfortunate in naming "ague, fever, and rheumatism" as the diseases from which the inhabitants of the lower bazar street *should* have died, as they are not usually fatal diseases in any locality; whereas the majority of those from which these poor people *did* die, are precisely the diseases to be looked for in a locality rendered unhealthy from the causes pointed out in my Report. The tabular statement shows that two-thirds of the deaths in the lower street of the bazar were from Zymotic diseases, and that twenty-seven per cent. of all the deaths from that class of disease, occurred in that street, though the population there is but a very small portion of the whole Native community.

6. No doubt the causes of disease which your Committee is anxious to remove would be more injurious in the plains than at Ootacamund. But when the President expresses a belief that the Ootacamund bazar is as healthy as any other of like size, he only furnishes an additional argument to prove how necessary it is that improvement should be made: for it shows that even with the advantage of such a climate as that of the Hills, all that can be said is that the bazar is believed to be as healthy as any other, and the Returns show that the deaths in it are chiefly owing to Zymotic diseases.

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MEMORANDUM.

I was not able when I received from the Secretary Mr. Thomas remarks on the Mortuary Returns to record any observation thereon, as the Cutwal whom I chiefly wished to examine regarding their preparation was absent from the Station. The Tahsíldár also subsequently went away on duty taking with his records the Tamil copy of the accounts.

I have however obtained from the Dispensary and examined the English accounts which were furnished to Dr. Mackay, as also the original Tamil from which they were translated.



Thomas' remarks calculated to give the idea that the accounts might be fictiti-
f gone through the bazar, and made inquiries of the relatives and neighbours
leceased persons. From what I have been able to ascertain I consider the
the majority of cases be deemed correct, that is, as to the actual numbers of

which the accounts were prepared is as follows: a notice was issued to the
ar to report whatever births or deaths took place in their families, and whatever
ere thus reported to the late Cutwal or Monegar at the Choultry were at once
n. In this manner the accounts for the first three months were prepared.
three were by the Cutwal, a Peon, and a Gumáshta going, and making inquiries
he different parties. The result of such inquiries was translated into English
untersigned by the Cutwal and Tahsíldár.

es showing *my* reading of the accounts which were furnished to Dr. Mackay,
f the same according to my present inquiry. Though a difference will in some
in these, yet it will still be seen that the deaths preponderate in the lower
e in the Carpenter's street and locality be included in these, as was doubtless
. Mackay, they will do so greatly. Mr. Thomas reverses the proportion, and
s in the upper street; but how he obtains this result I am not aware.

emembered that no attempt has been before made to compile any Mortuary
o law exists to compel persons to give the necessary information to make such
dly to be wondered at if inaccuracy should be discovered in them. Moreover,
e contended that the Returns prove or disprove, all persons who have passed
r street in wet weather will be satisfied of its urgent need of drainage and
m having seen how a few days heavy rain converts portions of it into almost

follows an elaborate tabular statement, which is omitted as being superfluous.)

(A true Copy.)

(Signed) W. H. WAPSHARE, Major,
*Secretary Ootacamund Improvement Committee.*

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ORDER THEREON, 11th April 1861, No. 811.

of the papers recorded above is the Report of the Ootacamund Improvement
e last quarter of 1860.

progress was made during the quarter in either "Sewerage" or "Drainage."
h the former, the Committee had placed 500 Rupees at the disposal of the late
for certain purposes, but no report had been received from that Officer as to the
carrying out the Committee's intentions.

gard to drainage, difficulties in obtaining the ground required for draining the
e bazar, delayed the determination of the line of the drain; while the false
ndation at the spot first thought of for the timber bridge on the Willowbund,
e selection of another site necessary, prevented the preparation of the Estimate

former Report the Committee expressed their intention to purchase thirteen
wer bazar street, and they expected to obtain them for about 800 Rupees: ten
t immediately, while the other three would probably require to be taken under
It now appears that seven of the ten have been bought for Rupees 855, and
ficulties in the way of acquiring the remaining three. The Committee do not
hich they intend to follow respecting them; but they speak of more enlarged
aining this locality, and request that, for reasons stated, the Government will
m of Rupees 7,000 to buy up other properties, situated on the margin of the
on of which appears to be essential to the prosecution of their plans. This

advance is to be in addition to the 3,000 Rupees sanctioned by G. O. 4th May 1860, No. 715 and, like that, to be repaid from the earliest receipts of land sold.

5. The primary ground of this request is drawn from letter from Dr. Mackay, a member of the Committee, who has, with reference to certain Mortuary Returns furnished to him by the Assistant Magistrate, brought to the Committee's notice the alarming difference in the death rate in the lower street of the bazar and in the upper and middle streets, which arises, as Dr. Mackay believes, from the want of proper drainage in the lower street. The Collector Mr. Thomas disputes the correctness of Mr. Mackay's facts and conclusions also;* but in the opinion of the Government he fails to shake their credibility.

* *See the 2nd and 3rd of the papers recorded above.*

6. The Government fully agree with the Committee as to the importance of the object in view; and they resolve to advance a sum of Rupees 7,000, on the terms and for the purpose stated above. They presume that the ground to be purchased with this money will be improved by the intended operations; and that eventually it will be lotted out and sold.

7. Adverting to the remarks in paragraph 4 of Division X of the Report, the Government observe that the Order of March 14th, No. 593, devolved on Captain Farewell the duty of providing for the wants of the Committee as respects the management of the Survey. That Officer was also, in the same Order, appointed a member of the Committee; and the Government do not doubt that he will use every endeavour to make a satisfactory arrangement.

8. The Committee were quite right in rejecting, as reported in Division XI, the Collector's application for an allotment of their funds for constructing roads outside the station, as the money was placed at their disposal for other purposes. A copy of the Order quoted by Mr. Thomas, November 19th 1860, No. 2,179, will be furnished to the Committee for their information.

9. From the account furnished it appears that since the commencement of operations Rupees 414 have been realized by sales of land; which sum has been paid to the Collector in part liquidation of the advances received from him.

10. The Government must observe, however, that the account is on a very objectionable plan, as it mixes up together the receipts and repayments of the advance, and the general survey transactions of the Committee. For the future two accounts current should be sent up; one as between the Government and the Committee in connection with the advances made by the former; the other showing the money transactions of the Committee, and having on one side the advances received from Government and the fees, and on the other the expenditure. Receipts for lands sold need not appear in this account current; as it does not become an asset of the Committee, but is immediately paid to the Collector in liquidation of the advance.

11. The plan now followed in numbering the paragraphs of the Committee's Reports, is inconvenient for reference. In future they will be requested to cause the paragraphs to be numbered consecutively from the beginning to the end of the Report. The division into certain heads may still be continued.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
*Secretary to Government.*

Rev Dept

N° 811

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 11th April 1861.

Read the following
Letter from the Secretary
to Vizianagram Improve-
ment Committee-

Submits a Re-
port of the Vizianagram
Improvement Committee (Here enter 21 January 61 N°)
for the Quarter ending 31st
December last-

Transmits with a
remarks a Memo from
the President differing
from Dr Mackay's views (Here enter 8 Feby 61 N°)
and Opinion relating to
certain matters connected
with the improvement
of Vizianagram-

Forwards with the
opinion of the Committee
Copies of a letter from Dr
Mackay and a Memo: from (Here enter 2 March 61 N°)
Mr Nesbitt on the subject
of Mortuary Returns shew-
-ing the deaths among the
native inhabitants at
Vizianagram-

The first of the
papers recorded above
is

is the report of the Ootacamund Improvement Committee for the last quarter of 1860.

2 ~~Comparing this with the report for the previous quarter, the Government observe that~~ But little progress was made during the Quarter in either "Sewerage" or "Drainage." In connection with the former, the Committee had placed 500 Rs. at the disposal of the late District Engineer for certain purposes, but no report had been received from that officer as to the progress made by him in carrying out the Committee's intentions.

3 ~~[illegible]~~ With regard to drainage difficulties in obtaining the ground required for draining the lower shed of the bazar, delayed the determination of the line of ~~[illegible]~~ the drain to pass; ~~and this together with~~ while the false nature of the foundation at the spot first thought of for the timber bridge on the ~~North side of the~~ Willow bund, which rendered the selection of another site necessary, prevented the preparation of this required estimate for the bridge.

4 In their former report ~~[illegible]~~ the Committee expressed their intention to purchase ~~[illegible]~~ thirteen houses in the lower bazar street, & they expected to obtain them for about 800 Rupees: ten were to be bought immediately, while the other three would require to be taken probably under Act VI of 1857. It now appears that

+ Recorded in G.O. 2nd Nov/60 No 2223

*~~[illegible]~~ from 3 of the present report.

that seven of the ten ~~acres~~ ~~bought~~, have been bought for Rupees 850. and that there are difficulties in the way of acquiring the remaining three. With regard to them, the Committee do not state the course which they intend to follow, respecting them, but they speak of a proposition relating to further and more enlarged operations for draining this locality, in drainage in question, and request that, for reasons stated, the Government will advance them a sum of Rs. 7,000 to buy up other properties, situated on the margin of the Lake, and the possession of which appears to be essential to the prosecution of their plans. This advance

× See the 2nd & 3rd of the papers recorded above.

advance is to be in addition to the 3000 Rs. sanctioned by G.O. 4th May 1860 No. 715, and, like that, to be repaid from the earliest receipts of land sold.

5. The primary ground of this request is drawn from a letter from Dr. MacRay, a member of the Committee, who has, with reference to certain mortuary returns furnished to him by the Assistant Magistrate, brought to the Committee's notice the alarming difference in the death rate in the lower street of the Bazar, and in the upper and middle streets, which arises, as Dr. MacRay believes from the want of proper drainage in the lower street. The Collector Mr. Thomas disputes the correctness of Mr. MacRay's facts and conclusions also; but in the opinion of the Govt. he fails to shake their credibility.

6. The Government fully agree with the Committee as to the importance of the object

in

in view; and they resolve to advance a sum of Rs. 7000 on the terms and for the purpose stated above. They presume that the grounds to be purchased with this money will be improved by the intended operations; and that eventually it will be lotted out and sold.

7. Adverting to the remarks in Paragraph of Division of the Report, the Government observe that the order of March 14, No. 593, devolved on Captain Farewell the duty of providing for the wants of the Committee as respects the management of the Survey. That Officer was also, in the same order, appointed a member of the Committee; and the Government do not doubt that he will use every endeavour to make a satisfactory arrangement.

The

as the money was placed at their disposal for other purposes.

8. The Committee were quite right in rejecting, as reported in Division XI, the Collector's application for an allotment of their funds for constructing roads outside the Station. A copy of the order quoted by Mr. Thomas, Nov. 19 1860 No. 2179, will be furnished to the Committee for their information.

9. From the account furnished it appears that since the commencement of operations Rs. 414 have been realized by sales of land, which sum has been paid to the Collector in part liquidation of the advances received from him.

10. The Government must observe however that the Account is on a very objectionable plan, as it mixes up together the receipts and repayments of the advance, and the general Survey transactions of the Committee. For the future

two

two accounts current should be sent up; one as between the Govt. and the Committee in connection with the advances made by the former; the other shewing the money transactions of the Committee, on Loans shewing on one side the receipts from Govt advances and the fees, and on the other the expenditure.

Receipts for lands sold need not appear in this Account Current; as it does not become an asset of the Committee, but is immediately paid to the Collector in liquidation of the Advance.

11. The plan now followed in numbering the Paragraphs of the Committee's Reports, is inconvenient for reference. In future they will be requested to cause the paragraphs to be numbered consecutively from the beginning to the end of the Report. The division into certain Heads may still be continued.

7/ Copies - to Accountant Insp.r Committee
13 " Boards of Revenue & Dir.rs 12
10 " Chief Engineers
1 " Collectors of Coimbatore 12
3 " Accountant General
2 " Civil Auditors
" Inspector Gen.l Med.l Dep.t &

324.327

5-11-60

412-413

24-11-60

Revenue 1861 Departt.
Rep. of Govt for April

No 811.

Madras Govt.
April 1861.

viewing the Report
recommd Improvem.
committee for the last
[illegible].

No 177 at 180

F. 73.

DEPARTMENT

Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Referencer.

Press / ~~Miscellaneous~~ / Routine No. B12, dated 11-4-1861 192 .

| Date taken out. | For what purpose. | | | Initials of clerk taking the paper or of attender. | Date returned. | Initials of attender. |
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| | Department. | C. No. | Year. | | | |
| 7 34 | Mrco | 6977 | 34 | [illegible] | 20-2-35 | |
| 3-37 | Mrco | 922 | 37 | [illegible] | | |
| 2/12/37 | " | 1386 | 37 | [illegible] | 1-10-38 | |
| 2-12-38 | Mrco | 15251 | 38 | [illegible] | 28/2/1938 | |
| 5-41 | MRO | 4735 | 41 | [illegible] | | |
| 7-7-41 | MRO | 4476 | 41 | [illegible] | 27-7-41 | |
| 24-11-41 | MRO VIII | 1049 | DVIII 41 | [illegible] | 16-12-41 | |
| 7 12/24 | | 26452 | RH/84 | | | |
| Re) Foreclm | | 27 11/30 | 20 | | | |