M.R.O. 16-5,450—28-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2133 Press ~~Mts.~~

181—182

Dated 11—5—1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
11th September 1867.

No. 181. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department :—

Passing orders on letters from President of the Vellore Municipal Commission, relative to the nomination of a Secretary to the Commission, and other subjects connected with the Municipality. } (Here enter 5th September 1867, No. 1,092.)

No. 182. ORDER THEREON, 11th September 1867, No. 2,133.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Revenue Board.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) F. H. WILKINSON,

Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Public Department, No. 1,092.

Ex'd. S. T. Augustin

Read again letter from the Acting Sub-Collector, North Arcot, dated 19th, and recorded in Proceedings of the 27th June 1867, No. 752.

Read also the following papers :—

No. 47. From the President of the Municipal Commission, Vellore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Chittoor, 22nd June 1867, No. 44.

In forwarding the accompanying copy of a letter received from the Commissioners of the Municipality of Vellore, I have the honor to request that Government will, for the reason therein explained, be pleased to sanction the nomination of Mr. J. A. Beckett, as Secretary to the Commissioners, on a salary of Rupees 150 per mensem.

Dated 15th June 1867, No. 82.

2. I should mention that, in the original proposition sanctioned by the Government, in their Order of the 13th September 1866, No. 930, Public Department, there is no provision made for a Secretary.

From the Members of the Municipal Commission acting for the Vice-President, to the President of the Municipal Commission, Vellore; dated Vellore, 15th June 1867.

As the existing state of the office and other departments of this Municipality is, in the opinion of the Commissioners, far from satisfactory, it was resolved at a Meeting of the Members, held on the 12th instant, that one of their body be nominated as a Secretary, on a salary of Rupees 150 per mensem. It was put to the Meeting, and unanimously carried, that Mr. J. A. Beckett be elected to that Office.

2. In forwarding this appointment for your sanction, we have the honor to state that provision has been made for the payment of Secretary in the budget estimate submitted for the current year.

No. 48. From the President of the Municipal Commission, Vellore, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint Geroge; dated Chittoor, 21st August 1867, No. 62.

As a strip of waste ground lying north of the Vellore Fort is required by the Municipal Commissioners of the town for a cart-stand, I have the honor to forward a plan of the place, and to request that Government will be pleased to sanction the appropriation of the land for the purpose to which it is proposed to apply it.

2. The road shown as intersecting the ground need not be an obstacle to its being granted for the purpose, as it admits of an easy and convenient deflection.

No. 49. From the President of the Municipal Commission, Vellore, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Chittoor, 22nd August 1867, No. 63.

I have the honor, with reference to the Order of Government, dated 27th June last, No. 752, to submit, herewith, a revised statement showing the estimated receipts and expenditure pertaining to the Municipality of Vellore for the year 1867-68. From this, the Government will find that the amount of estimated expenditure is the same as that given in the statement submitted from this office with letter dated 19th June last, No. 42, viz., Rupees 30,709-3-0. The receipts, as now estimated, plus the Government grant-in-aid, amount to Rupees 30,809-3-0, being 6965-13-0 below the figure shown in the statement embodied in the Government Order. The circumstances which have brought about this result, and made it impossible to effect any reduction of taxation in the way suggested by Government, in paragraph 3 of their Order, are thus explained by the Vice-President.

"On comparing the actual assessment (made by the five members of the Com-
"mission who were especially deputed for the purpose) on arts, trades, &c., under
"Schedule A, and on houses under Section 37 of the Act, with the amount estimat-
"ed as the collections likely to be made therefrom (in the statement which
"has already been sent), it was discovered that the former was as much as Rupees
"6445-10-0* lower than the latter—a start-
"ling difference, which shows that the
"original estimate was made very much
"at random, or that the Commissioners, in assessing, have fixed the sum to be col-
"lected at a great deal too low a figure."

* Vide enclosed Comparative Statement, marked B.

"The latter seems to me to be the case (though very probably the original esti-
"mate was too high), for you will observe, under Class II of Schedule A, only nine
"persons are assessed by the Commissioners, whereas I learn from the Acting Judge
"of the Small Cause Court here that there are no less than 22 pleaders practising
"in his Court, each of whom comes under that Class, and there are, of course, many
"merchants and others in Vellore who would come under it also. That this is the
"case, is shown by the income tax list furnished by the Tahsildar."

"Though the assessment fixed by the Commissioners has apparently been made
"at a very reduced rate, we have nothing at present to show that it is altogether
"wrong. It will, therefore, have to be revised. If we accept it as it stands, our
"estimated receipts, instead of being above the expenditure, will fall far below it,
"especially as we have made a reduction in the amount likely to be collected by
"tolls—the sum of Rupees 12,000, as originally estimated for that item, appearing,
"on further consideration, to be too high."

"Under the above circumstances, the Commissioners found it impossible to
"make any reduction of taxation in the way suggested by Government in para-
"graph 3 of their Order. In submitting the enclosed revised assessment, however,
"they have raised the amount to be collected according to Schedule A above
"the amount assessed, although it still falls below that previously estimated. The
"difference between the rates on houses as estimated and as assessed is very slight."

2. In paragraph 1 of the Order now under reference, Government object to the expenditure of Rupees 400 on account of the purchase of lamp oil, and, under an impression that it is required for lighting the town, observe that it is a charge for a purpose other than that specified in Section 25 of the Act. I beg leave respectfully to state that this provision in the estimate is not for the purpose of lighting the town, but for lighting the toll sheds and gates after dark. Trusting that Government will, under this explanation, admit the charge, I have included it in the revised estimate now submitted. The proposed expenditure on this account has, however, been reduced to Rupees 250, as the Vice-President considers that 400 Rupees is a larger sum than will be actually required.

3. The submission of the statement of the actual receipts and expenditure during the past half-year in the Vellore Municipality is delayed, pending the receipt of some information which has been called for from the Vice-President. As soon as this is received, no time will be lost in submitting the statement called for by Government.

4. In conclusion, I beg to state that I have requested the Vice-President to reconsider the list of Commissioners which he had submitted, in view to determining whether, with reference to the recent disturbances in Vellore, it should not undergo some modification. On its receipt, the revised list will, at once, be submitted to Government, with any remarks which it may appear to call for.

A.

STATEMENT showing the estimated receipts and expenditure on account of the Vellore Municipality for the year 1867-68.

Item of receipts.	Number.	Amount. Rs.	Amount. A.	Amount. P.
Rates upon arts, &c., under Schedule A.				
Class I.	1	50	0	0
Do. II.	35	875	0	0
Do. III.	120	1,440	0	0
Do. IV.	320	1,920	0	0
Do. V.	670	1,340	0	0
Rates on houses, &c., Section 37	7140	5,211	6	0
Tax on carriages, &c., as per Schedule C		800	0	0
Registration of carts, Section 63		1,000	0	0
Toll collections, Sections 50 and 51, and Schedule B		10,200	0	0
Funds derived from the sale of sweepings and bandy-stand		295	9	0
Grant by Government, at 25 per cent of the estimated expenditure		7,677	4	9
Total		30,809	3	9

Item of expenditure.	Rate per mensem. Rs.	A.	P.	Rate per year. Rs.	A.	P.
Town Police Force				8,186	3	0
1 Secretary	150	0	0	1,800	0	0
1 Head Clerk	35	0	0	420	0	0
1 Vernacular Clerk	20	0	0	240	0	0
6 Bill Collectors, at 7 Rupees each	42	0	0	504	0	0
1 Shroff	7	0	0	84	0	0
2 Peons, at 6 Rupees each	12	0	0	144	0	0
1 Sweeper	5	0	0	60	0	0
4 Overseers: one at 38, one at 22, and two at 17 Rupees	94	0	0	1,128	0	0
13 Toll-keepers: four at 10, six at 8, two at 6, and one at 4 Rupees	104	0	0	1,248	0	0
1 Inspector of tolls	15	0	0	180	0	0
20 Scavengers, at 5 Rupees each	100	0	0	1,200	0	0
20 Pairs of bullocks with drivers, at 15 Rupees	300	0	0	3,600	0	0
5 Scavengers' carts				325	0	0
50 Maunds of lamp oil for toll gates, at 5 Rupees per maund				250	0	0
Town improvements				8,000	0	0
Toll Sheds				1,470	0	0
Carriage allowances to Commissioners				200	0	0
Office Rent	10	0	0	120	0	0
Stationery				110	0	0
Unforeseen contingencies				270	0	0
3 Town Moonsiffs, at 5 Rupees each	15	0	0	180	0	0
Total				30,709	3	0

(Signed) J. D. ROBINSON,
President, Municipal Commission, Vellore.

NORTH ARCOT MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE,
CHITTOOR, 22*nd August* 1867.

B.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT showing the estimated receipts of the Vellore Municipality for the year 1867-68 as originally proposed and subsequently assessed by the Commissioners, under Schedule A, and Section 37 of the Act X of 1865.

Items.	Number.	Probable amount to be assessed.			Number.	Actual amount assessed.			Difference.		
		Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Rates upon arts, &c., under Schedule A.											
Class I...	1	50	0	0	1	50	0	0	...	...	...
Do. II...	50	1,250	0	0	9	225	0	0	1,025	0	0
Do. III.....	310	3,720	0	0	96	1,152	0	0	2,568	0	0
Do. IV.....	300	1,800	0	0	287	1,722	0	0	78	0	0
Do. V...	2,000	4,000	0	0	757	1,514	0	0	2,486	0	0
	2,661	10,820	0	0	1,150	4,663	0	0	6,157	0	0
Rates on houses, &c., Section 37...	7,100	5,500	0	0	7,140	5,211	6	0	288	10	0
Total...	9,761	16,320	0	0	8,290	9,874	6	0	6,445	10	0

VELLORE, MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE,
CHITTOOR,
8th August 1867.

(Signed) W. H. COMYN,
Vice-President.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. D. ROBINSON,
President, Municipal Commission.

No. 50. From the President of the Municipal Commission, Vellore, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Chittoor, 24th August 1867, No. 64.

I have the honor, with reference to the Order of Government, dated 9th instant, No. 1287, Judicial Department, and the last paragraph of my letter of yesterday, to enclose copy of a letter* received from the Vice-President, along with a modified list of Commissioners for the Vellore Municipality. This list I beg respectfully to recommend to the acceptance of Government.

* No. 73, dated 21st August 1867.

2. The European and official element may, at first sight, appear disproportionately large, but looking at the attitude taken by many of the better classes of the Native community on a recent occasion, and during the uneasiness caused by last year's dearth, it is, I think, very desirable that this proportion be maintained for the present on the new list of Commissioners.

From the Vice-President, to the President of the Municipal Commission, Vellore; dated Vellore, 21st August 1867, No. 73.

With reference to paragraph 9 of the Government Order, dated the 9th August 1867, No. 1287, and in reply to your letter dated 13th August 1867, No. 190, I have the honor to report, for the information of Government, the names of those of the Municipal Commissioners for this town, who, by their behaviour on the occasion of the late disturbances here, are not in my opinion fit to continue to hold the office of Municipal Commissioners.

2. They are Thaniachella Moodelly, Cauder Saib, and Seshachella Moodelly. They are influential merchants resident here, and possess granaries and shops; and had they, instead of joining the obstinate movements set on foot, in view to the cancelment of the Municipal Act, as far as

this town is concerned, used their influence with the other merchants in a proper direction, affairs might have assumed a very different shape. Thaniachella Moodelly went so far as to tell me he had no key wherewith to open his bazaars, and, indeed, the simultaneous disappearance of keys at that time was very extraordinary. Moreover, the above-named Commissioners seldom, if ever, put in an appearance at our Meetings.

3. Another Commissioner (who was present in Vellore at the time), by name Kaluram Lala, certainly closed his shop in common with the rest of the traders, but he subsequently opened it, and would have kept it open, had it not been for the violence of the crowd: he tried to set a good example, but, being single handed, failed in the attempt. Such being the case, I am unwilling to report his name unfavorably to Government.

4. The other Native members of the Commission who possess bazaars, &c., were absent from Vellore at the time of the disturbance.

5. I have made inquiries, in order to ascertain who would be fit persons to hold the office of Municipal Commissioners, in case of any vacancies occurring. One name only commends itself to me, and that is the name of Viraraghava Moodelliar, the Agent of Parry & Co.'s House and manager of the Indigo Factory here. He was most energetic on the occasion of the late *emeute*; and, while he is independent of the merchants, he possesses considerable influence among them. In my list* of the Commissioners whom it is proposed to appoint for the current year, I had entered the names of Mr. Gibson and Lieutenant Blair. These gentlemen and Viraraghava Moodelly could, I think, very well fill up the three vacancies contemplated.

* Sent you with my letter, No. 65, dated 8th instant.

6. If this arrangement be approved of, we shall have six European and seven Native members on the Commission. Under the circumstances, I do not think it desirable to increase the number of Native Commissioners.

7. With reference to paragraph 10 of the Government Order quoted above, I may observe that a copy of my report on the late disturbances here was not sent to you, as you saw the original before it was submitted to Government.

8. The Government Order which accompanied your letter is herewith returned.

MODIFIED LIST OF MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS for the town of Vellore, as recommended by the Vice-President to be appointed for 1867-68.

1. Mr. William Horatio Comyn, Acting Joint Magistrate.
2. ,, Edward Gibson, Assistant Magistrate.
3. ,, William Frederick deFabeck, Assistant Surgeon.
4. Lieutenant Henry William Blair, Assistant Superintendent of Police.
5. ,, Ralph Rhoinus Evans Brockman, Acting Assistant Engineer, North Arcot.
6. Mr. John Alexander Beckett, Manager, Stipend Pay Office.
7. Pillay Mutta Pillay, Tahsildar.
8. Ramasheshiah.
9. Kaluram Lala.
10. Pallany Chettyar.
11. Sheshiah.
12. Shaw Roohoolla Saib.
13. Veeraraghava Moodelly, Agent of Messrs. Parry & Co. at Vellore.

(Signed) J. D. ROBINSON,
President.

CHITTOOR,
24th August 1867.

No. 51. ORDER THEREON, 5th September 1867, No. 1092.

From the foregoing letter of the President of the Vellore Municipal Commission, dated the 22nd August, No. 63, it appears that the amount which it is proposed to raise and expend during the year 1867-68 is the same as that given in the President's letter of the 19th June last. It is explained that the sum of Rupees 400, which was objected to in the Proceedings of Government of the 27th June last, was not intended for a purpose other than those specified in Section 25 of the Act; and, with reference to the suggestions made in the 3rd paragraph of the Proceedings above quoted, it is shown that the amount to be raised by the Commissioners, as now revised, will, with the Government contribution, very slightly exceed the estimated expenditure.

2. The collections from a rate on houses and a tax on arts and trades are now estimated at Rupees 10,836, and receipts from tolls at Rupees 10,200. In the statement submitted with the President's letter of the 19th June, the collections under the former heads were estimated at Rupees 16,320, and receipts from tolls at Rupees 12,000. The Government have little doubt that, as suggested by the Vice-President, the original assessment estimated by the Commissioners was too high, being based on insufficient information, and the actual assessment was far too low.

3. The Government are of opinion that the estimates, as now revised, may safely be accepted: the Commissioners are to raise Rupees 23,131-15-0, as shown in the margin, and this sum, with the Government contribution, or Rupees 7407-4-0, will place at their disposal Rupees 30,539-3-0, the expenditure amounting to Rupees 29,629-3 0.

	Rs.	A.	P.
By a tax on arts, trades, and professions...	5,625	0	0
By a rate on houses...	5,211	6	0
By tolls...	10,200	0	0
By a tax on carriages...	400	0	0
Sundry...	295	9	0
Total... ...	23,131	15	0

4. The Government are not prepared to sanction the charge of Rupees 150 per mensem, as salary for a paid Secretary. It is observed that, in other Municipalities, a Manager, on a salary of Rupees 50 or 60 per mensem, has been found competent to perform the work which it is proposed to entrust to the Secretary. The Commissioners are at liberty, if they think it necessary, to appoint a clerk, under the provisions of Section 24 of the Act, on a salary not exceeding Rupees 60, but this official should not be a Municipal Commissioner. The estimated expenditure will, therefore, be altered, owing to the difference between the rate of pay proposed for a Secretary, and that now sanctioned by Government for a clerk.

5. The Government have already, in their Order of the 9th August last, issued sufficient instructions as to the steps to be taken for the assessment and collection of municipal taxes in Vellore, and it will be the duty of the Commissioners to carry out these instructions, both with reference to the collection of taxes uncollected during the past half-year, and those now sanctioned.

6. The list of Commissioners whom it is proposed to appoint during the current year is approved. Thaniachella Moodelliar, Cauder Saib, and Seshachella Moodelliar will not be re-appointed Town Commissioners.

7. With reference to the President's letter of the 21st August, requesting that a piece of waste land outside the Fort may be given over to the Commissioners as a site for a cart-stand, the Government sanction the transfer of the land in question, on the supposition that it is Government waste land, and is not required for any other purpose.

8. Ordered that the following Notification be published in the *Fort Saint George Gazette*:—

NOTIFICATION.

Fort Saint George, 5th September 1867.

The Right Honorable the Governor of Fort Saint George in Council, in accordance with the provisions of Section 6 of (Madras) Act X of 1865, hereby appoints the undermentioned persons, being inhabitants of the Town of Vellore, as described and designated for the purposes of the said Act in the Notification published in the *Fort Saint George Gazette* dated 30th October 1866, to be Town Commissioners for the purposes of the said Act, during the year ending on the 30th April 1868, in addition to the Officers who are, under the provisions of Section 7 of the said Act, ex-officio Commissioners for the towns within their respective charges—that is to say

1. Mr. William Horatio Comyn, Acting Joint Magistrate.
2. „ Edward Gibson, Assistant Magistrate.
3. Assistant Surgeon William Frederick deFabeck, 6th Regiment, Native Infantry.
4. Lieutenant Henry William Blair, Assistant Superintendent of Police.
5. „ Ralph Rhenius Evans Brockman, Acting Assistant Engineer, North Arcot.
6. Mr. John Alexander Beckett, Manager, Stipend Pay Office.
7. Pillay Muttu Pillay, Tahsildar.
8. Ramasheshiah.
9. Kaluram Lala.
10. Pallany Chettyar.
11. Sheshiah.
12. Shaw Roohoolla Saib.
13. Veeraraghava Moodelly, Agent of Messrs. Parry & Co. at Vellore.

2. In accordance with the provisions of Sections 26 and 27 of the said Act, the Governor in Council further determines and directs that the number of Police to be maintained in the said town of Vellore, during the year ending on the 30th April 1868, shall be 55, and that such Police shall be of the description hereinafter mentioned, and shall be paid at the rates hereinafter specified—that is to say

1	3rd Class Inspector, at Rupees	115	per mensem.
3	Head Constables, at Rupees	22	each do.
4	Deputy do. „	12½	do. do.
17	1st Class Constables „	8	do. do.
30	2nd Class do. „	7	do. do.—

and that the total amount to be raised and expended in the town of Vellore, during the year ending on the 30th April 1868, for the purposes specified in Section 25 of the said Act, shall be Rupees 29,629-3-0, of which sum 25 per cent., or Rupees 7407-4-0 shall be contributed by Government to the Municipal Fund.

4. In accordance with the provisions of Section 36 of the said Act, the Governor in Council authorizes the Commissioners for the said town of Vellore to

levy, during the year ending on the 30th April 1868, the several rates, taxes, and fees below specified—that is to say ..

A rate on houses, buildings, and lands, as provided in Sections 37 to 44.

A tax on arts, trades, and professions, as provided in Sections 45 to 49.

A toll on carriages and other vehicles entering the municipal limits as provided in Sections 50 to 56.

A tax on carriages, horses, and other animals, as provided in Sections 57 to 64.

Registration fees on carts, under Section 65.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor in Council.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Vellore.
" Inspector General of Police.
" Revenue Department.
" Accountant General.

Ed. J. H. Burns.

Revenue 1867 - Sept.
Pro. of Court for Sept.
No. 2411.

Proceedings in the
Public Depart.

Dated 5th } Sept.
Received 7th } 1867.

No. 1092.

Copy orders &
letters from President of the
Board Municipal Commissioners
relative to the appointment of
a Secy. to the Commissioners and
other subjects connected with
the Municipality.

No 2132-11 Sept.
With order

No. 181-182