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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

REV DEPARTMENT

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 27. Read the following letter from the President of the Municipal Commission, Tellicherry, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Calicut, 21st October 1872, No. 29 :—

I have the honour to forward the annual report of the Tellicherry Municipality for the year 1871-72.

2. The total amount collected during the year, including the unexpended balance, was Rupees 12,285-10-3.

3. It will be seen from the Demand, Collection and Balance Statement that a sum of Rupees 4,909-3-0 remained to be collected on the 31st March 1872, of which Rupees 3,938-8-0 were tax on Arts, Trades, and Professions.

The Commissioners attribute these outstandings to the fact of their having had to revise the Trades Tax Register, and thus the delay caused in serving the notices ; they have, however, realized the greater part of the arrears since the close of the year under report.

4. Expenditure.—*Grant I.*—Under the head "New Works" a sum of Rupees 634-8-0 was expended. Of this sum Rupees 481-0-7 were for communications ; Rupees 126-7-5 for the completion of a latrine which was commenced last year; and Rupees 27 for widening a drain.

5. Repairs.—Under this head a sum of Rupees 4,676-12-0 was spent, of which Rupees 4,459-13-8 were for roads.

6. *Grant II.*—Under the head "Education" nothing was spent during the year under review.

The Vice-President states, in paragraph 15 of his report, herewith subjoined, that a sum of Rupees 643-12-0 was certified to by the educational authorities as grants-in-aid to be paid to the schools within the Municipality ; but the sum was not disbursed until after the close of the year.

7. *Grant III.*—The Commissioners have taken charge of the Civil Dispensary with a funded capital of Rupees 5,178-5-7.

8. The total receipts of this institution was Rupees 1,179-6-7, and its expenditure Rupees 1,151-11-8, leaving a balance of Rupees 27-10-11 on the 31st March 1872.

9. It will be seen from the accounts that a sum of Rupees 286 has been charged under "Establishment;" this is the pay of menial servants employed in the Dispensary. The pay of the Dresser and contingent charges are not included in this, and will be adjusted from Local and Municipal Funds as soon as an order is passed on my letter to the Board of Revenue on the subject. The cost of medicines supplied during the year is not yet known from the Accountant-General; hence it was not paid.

10. The report of the Civil Surgeon, which is also subjoined, shows that the total number of patients treated during the year was 2,454, of which only 161 were in-patients.

11. There appears to have been no epidemic disease during the year.

12. Rupees 110 were spent on the salary of a vaccinator.

13. Rupees 142-9-4 were expended for registration of births and deaths.

The number of births and deaths, shown in the body of the Vice-President's report, differs widely with the figures given in the return already submitted. The former figures are obviously incorrect.

—	As given in body of Report.	As given in the Return.
Births	608	567
Deaths...	198	376

14. Rupees 2,467-1-10 were spent for Conservancy Establishment.

15. The Civil Surgeon, in his report on the sanitary condition of the Municipality, criticises very unfavourably the administration of the Commissioners. This Officer was, unless I am misinformed, actively engaged in getting up a memorial to Government against the Commissioners, to which I shall hereafter allude.

16. He states that, for a population of 20,000, only two scavenger carts are employed, on which it is to be observed that, as regards the condition of the greater part of the Municipality, scavenging by means of carts is at Tellicherry, as in other West Coast towns, impossible, the population being scattered over a large area, each house detached with a large garden all round, such gardens being separated by narrow foot-paths inaccessible to carts. The area within which scavenging by bazaars, and even in these many localities are only accessible to hand-carts. The Tellicherry bazaars are so compact as not to require many carts, and the establishment maintained was four during the coffee-crop season, and two during the rest of the year, supplemented by six hand-carts, which being worked by twenty scavengers, at an annual cost of 2,467 Rupees.

17. The Sanitary Commissioner, who visited Tellicherry in November, reported that the general conservancy of the town was carefully attended to. I may add that the Civil Surgeon has not informed me that he has unsuccessfully endeavoured to promote sanitary improvements, and that any proposals made by him as Commissioner have been disregarded.

18. As regards the Civil Surgeon's remarks about accommodation for small-pox and cholera patients, the Commissioners consider that mat-pavilions constructed according to emergency are preferable, and this is in accordance with the views of Government expressed in their Order of 21st August 1871, No. 1290.

19. *Grant V.*—Under this head a sum of Rupees 1,842 was spent, including miscellaneous charges.

20. General Remarks.—The Commissioners in their report enter at length into the question of the tolls in the neighbourhood of the town collected by the Local Fund Board.

They have, however, failed, I think, to give sufficient prominence to the fact that they received a sum of Rupees 2,753 from the Local Fund Board as contribution for the maintenance of the two roads on which tolls are levied so far as they lie within the Municipality. The sum spent by the Commissioners on communications

was Rupees 4,460, so that, deducting Local Fund contribution (which being a share of tolls they have entered under "Tolls"), the expenditure on communication from Municipal Fund was Rupees 1,707.

21. The circumstances of Tellicherry as regards the old Local Fund tolls are peculiar, and have more than once been under consideration of Government. It seems necessary to describe them at length.

22. The coast road from Calicut to Cannanore passes for a distance of two miles through the Municipality. Approaching Tellicherry from the south the coast road has first the toll at the Mahé Bridge, two miles south of municipal limits, half the proceeds of which are payable to the French Government; then the Kuduvully Bridge toll across the river forming the northern limit of the Municipality on which there is an old Local Fund toll, then the Dharmada Bridge, which is free, and then the Kudakadava, an extensive bridge on which there is an old Local Fund toll, distant two miles from municipal limits.

On the Wynaad Road there is the Erinjoly Bridge at the municipal boundary, where there is an old Local Fund toll. All these tolls tax foot-passengers except unloaded passengers at Kuduvully and Erinjoly.

23. The result, therefore, is this, that, deducting the payment to the French Government, the Local Fund Board derive a revenue from tolls in the neighbourhood of Tellicherry amounting to about 14,000 Rupees, of which they pay to the Municipality Rupees 2,750.

The remaining sum of Rupees 11,250 represents the Local Fund income from tolls over the following mileage taking in each case the distance to next toll:—

	Miles.
Head of Peria Ghaut to Tellicherry	40
Erity Bridge to Tellicherry	23
Murat Bridge to Cannanore	30
Total ...	93

The lowest maintenance at which it is found possible to keep up these roads is 110 Rupees a mile. The greater part takes Rupees 220, and some portions take Rupees 330.

24. The roads in question involve five large bridges, constructed from Local Funds, the maintenance of which is indispensable to the traffic of the country. On the other hand, the Municipality is saddled with keeping in order four miles of roads, the only mileage in the Municipality traversed to any considerable extent by traffic from outside.

25. The great argument in favour of retaining the old tolls is that they *are* old, and that the irritating effect resulting from the establishment of *new* tolls is thereby obviated.

26. There are three other marked advantages appertaining to these sites, viz., that they are thoroughly within reach of supervision; that being adjacent to a large town there is ample competition by renters, and the full value is therefore realized;

and, thirdly, that the traffic being here focussed, the loss occasioned by multiplying bars and by evasions is obviated. Very strong grounds should, therefore, I think, be shown to justify the abolition or removal of these tolls.

27. The objection of the Commissioners is, first, that more money is required by them; and, secondly, that the inhabitants of the Municipality have a grievance in having to pay even for foot-passengers when leaving their limits.

As regards the first point, it is clearly held by Government that no excessive income should be made by tolls in Municipalities, and that, in regulating the amount, regard is to be had, first, to the proportion of imports actually consumed in the Municipality as compared with goods which are re-exported; and, secondly, to the expense incurred in the Municipality on account of communications.

28. In a Municipality like Tellicherry—a large exporting port—it is obvious that a large revenue from tolls would be simply a transit due, especially as no important amount of traffic enters the Municipality by inland water communication. In this respect Tellicherry differs widely from Calicut, which receives large quantities of goods free by inland water both from the north and south.

29. In regard to the second point there is, it must be admitted, a hardship, and I think that the tolls on foot-passengers on the Erinjoly and Kuduvully Bridges should be discontinued from the commencement of next official year; on both it is only laden coolies that pay. The former toll should then, I consider, be moved a short distance eastward so as to toll the coffee brought to two of the principal coffee-curing establishments, which now escape tolls by sending the coffee down the river to the Custom House. There is an expensive road, be it remembered, of thirty miles to the head of the Peria Ghaut, maintained mainly for coffee traffic, and two tolls on that, viz., at head of Peria and outside Tellicherry, cannot be regarded as excessive. The new toll would be under the Local Fund Act, and the site somewhere within two miles of the present site—a locality suitable for intercepting traffic being selected.

30. The existing arrangements by which one-fourth of the proceeds of the Erinjoly and Kuduvully Bridge tolls (*i.e.*, Wynaad and Cannanore Roads) was assigned to the Municipality was approved, as a temporary measure, by Government in their Proceedings dated 1st July 1871, No. 951.

31. It was considered that the terms were favourable to the Municipality, provided the toll on traffic inwards did not exceed that outwards. The inward traffic, however, does exceed the outward in spite of a large salt trade in addition; it must be remembered, too, that, owing to the proximity of the Mahé Bridge, the Commissioners forego the income of a toll on the coast road at their southern limits; some increase might, therefore, be made, and I propose ascertaining the views of the Local Fund Board at the approaching Budget Meeting.

32. The three tolls on the coast road are, it must be admitted, unusually near together, but then so are the rivers or rather arms of the sea spanned by the bridges wherein they are situated. The Mahé toll cannot be interfered with as there is an agreement with the French Government. It is over a large river, vessels ascending and anchoring close to the bridge; in fact before the construction of the bridge they anchored at half a mile further up. Bridges in such situations are

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found very expensive to maintain, especially as the wooden piles suffer from the attacks of the terredo. The Kuduvully and Dharmada Bridges are exposed it may be said to the action of the waves, while the Kudakadava is an immense structure some 300 yards long.

33. The course proposed by me of the Local Fund Board retaining the tolls and paying a contribution to the Municipality is the reverse of that sanctioned in the case of Palghaut, but the circumstances of the traffic are widely different, and mere municipal tolls would not produce a sufficient income to admit of a fair contribution to the Local Funds.

34. From the foregoing remarks the special question as to the incidence of tolls can be gathered, and it only remains to report as to the popularity or otherwise of the Municipality. The Commissioners confine their opinion to the native community, and, admitting their discontent, attribute it solely to the disinclination to pay.

35. Quite recently, I have received a memorial, signed by nearly every European in the place and by a large number of Natives, for transmission to Government, and I propose forwarding it with a full report after personally inspecting the various roads, &c., the state of which is specially animadverted on.

36. I can only now say that the Municipality is unpopular with a large section of the community, including the European portion. This may, to some extent as regards the Europeans, be attributed to the Commissioners having, in consequence of repeated changes in the Sub-Collectorship, elected a Native gentleman as Vice-President.

37. I regret that this report could not be submitted earlier. I sent repeated reminders, but the report only reached this office on the 12th October during the Dusserah holidays, and since then I have been engaged for two entire days with the Calicut Local Fund Board Meeting.

From the Vice-President of the Municipal Commission, Tellicherry, to the President of the Municipal Commission, Tellicherry, dated Tellicherry, 12th October 1872, No. 18.

I have the honour to forward, for submission to Government, the report of the Tellicherry Municipal Commissioners on the working of the Towns' Improvement Act No. III. of 1871 (Madras) for the official year beginning 1st May 1871 and ending 31st March 1872, with the several enclosures marginally noted.

1. Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, &c.
2. Auditor's Report.
3. Statement furnishing the information called for by G. O., No. 627, dated 4th May 1872.
4. Statement of Births, Deaths, and Diseases in the year.
5. Statement of the operations of the Vaccinator.
6. Copy of the Return submitted by Zillah Surgeon of sick treated at the Civil Dispensary.
7. List of the Commissioners who are now on the Board.
8. Copy of the Sanitary Report submitted by the Civil Surgeon.

2. You are aware that, under the new Municipal Act, Commissioners were appointed and budget sanctioned by Government on the 1st of July 1871. The Commissioners have held thirty-three meetings during the year under report.

3. Agreeably to G. O., dated 1st July last, they elected as their Vice-President Mr. Cameron, the late Acting Sub-Collector, on the 23rd July; but, as this gentleman resigned the appointment

on the 17th November owing to ill-health, the Commissioners elected in his stead the present Vice-President on the 23rd idem.

4. There has been no changes among the Commissioners during the year under report, except in the cases of the two ex-officio members, viz., the Sub-Collector and the Civil Surgeon.

5. In accordance with the Official Memorandum from the Under Secretary to Government, No. 207, dated 31st July last, a list* (enclosure No. 7) showing the names of the several members, official and non-official, who are now on the Commission is enclosed.

* N.B.—Enclosures Nos. 1 to 6 already forwarded with letter, No. 16, dated 5th instant.

6. Agreeably to the provisions of the new Act the Commissioners were obliged to prepare a fresh register of assessment on trades and professions, the one prepared under the old Act having been rendered useless by its abolition. They received for this purpose statements classifying the several ratepayers under the Schedule of the Act from the Sub-Committees only in January. This having delayed the serving of 2,903 notices on the ratepayers, Rupees 4,909-3-0 fell in arrears when the year under report closed. The greater part of all the arrears the Commissioners have, however, since collected. For these reasons they regret that the working of the Act for the year under report was not so satisfactory as it might have been.

7. The Commissioners now venture to enter into the necessary details of receipts and expenditure.

8. Statement I.—2, Assignments and Allotments by Government.—*a, Surplus Pound Fund.*—The amount realized under this head was Rupees 80-1-6; of this sum Rupees 27-13-6 have been expended in repairing the pound.

Rates and Taxes, c and d—Tax on Animals and Carriages and the Registration of Carts.—The sum realized from the latter of these sources being small, Government have in paragraph 1 of their Order, No. 55, dated 13th January 1872, suggested to discontinue it altogether. The collection from this source this year also is small. For reasons shown in paragraph 4 of this report they were not able to institute, during the year under report, that inquiry which the subject called for; they have, however, since done it, and intend discussing it at length in their next report.

f, Fees, &c.—Rupees 40 under this head were fees for licensing slaughter-houses under Section 6 of the bye-laws, and Rupees 2 were costs for two demand notices under Section 52 of the Act. These two are the only demand notices issued during the year, and there has been no occasion for the issuing of distress warrants.

9. The only figures wanting details under miscellaneous receipts are specified in *h*. They comprise the following items:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Refund	5	4	4
Sale of ashes	1	0	0
Do. of lands	27	0	0
Recovery	2	0	0
Total ...	35	4	4

Particulars of Expenditure under Statement 2.

10. *Grant I.*—Public Works.—1, New Works.—*a, Communication.*—Litigation costs, it will be seen from Statement No. 2A, amount to Rupees 76-3-7, of which Rupees 38-13-0 is for suits about Road No. 18, Tiruvengad, and Rupees 37-6-7 for suits about Road No. 19, Chally Road.

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The plaintiffs in these suits have gone into Court with a view to extract a larger sum from the Commissioners than they deemed reasonable to offer. The above sum decreed by the Court is, however, less than what had been offered to plaintiffs by the Commissioners.

11. Rupees 126-7-5, shown against New Works under Sanitary and Miscellaneous, is expenditure incurred to complete the latrine, the building of which was commenced last year. The scavengers having been procured with difficulty, the latrine was thrown open for the use of the public.

The construction of a few more latrines is deemed necessary to render the town more cleanly than it is at present. Provision to meet their expenditure is sanctioned in the budget. But the Commissioners regret that they have not been successful in their endeavours to secure sites for the purpose, the several pieces of ground belonging to Government within the Municipality having been sold a few years back to private individuals. The two men named in the margin, who had purchased from Government extensive plots of grounds, refused to sell grounds by bits here and there to the Commissioners, though they expressed their willingness to pay exorbitant prices for them. The Commissioners are aware that Government prefer these matters being settled amicably between the owners of lands and the Commissioners, and they have not, therefore, brought them before Government, hoping to see things adjusted amicably between themselves; should, however, their attempts with these persons again fail the Commissioners intend submitting them for the orders of Government.

1. Chowakaren Valiapurayil Mackee
2. Chowakaren Orkattery Moidin Kutti.

12. 2, *Repairs.*—The figures against this head are expenditure incurred for the repairs of the roads named below:—

1. Part of the Coast Road, No. 2, and 11 (Imperial Road No. 5).
2. Rice-beaters' Road, No. 12.
3. Parts of Wynaad Road, No. 17.
4. Crossroad from Tiruvangad Pagoda to Kodapulli Hill as far as its junction with Kuttiyadi Road.

Rupees 1,000 and odd have been sanctioned by G. O., dated 28th April 1870, to repair this road, but the Commissioners regret that they were not able to complete its repairs, their labours having been diverted and occupied exclusively by works which called for more urgent attention. They have, however, spent, during the year under report, Rupees 400 on its repair, and intend completing it on the close of the monsoon.

5. *Part of the Kutiaddi Road, No. 17, within the Municipality.*—Rupees 250 were spent in connexion with this road.

13. The sum allotted in the budget for repairs was found insufficient for the purpose; the roads being considerably damaged by the unusual rain this year, and calling for immediate repairs, the Commissioners were obliged to meet these unforeseen expenses from allotments for new works. They regret they did not at the time apply to Government to get their budget altered.

14. *Municipal Schools.*—Commissioners were not able to establish, during the year under report, the four Primary Schools—two for boys and two for girls—sanctioned in the budget, owing to the difficulty they encountered in securing buildings, &c., for the purpose, and owing to the shortness of funds in their hands, and for reasons shown in paragraph 2 of the report.

15. *Salary Grants.*—The several schools that were receiving grants-in-aid have during the year been examined, and grants to the extent of Rupees 643-12-0 certified to them by officers in the Educational Department. Disputes arose among the Commissioners as to the propriety of paying this large sum under mere certificates, when they were shut out from all participation in connexion therewith. After much discussion it was in the end agreed to pay it for the time being, but the delay entailed in discussions, &c., delayed the payment to the current year.

16. *Grant* 3.—Sanitation and Medical Service.—*Tellicherry Dispensary.*—This institution was transferred to the Commissioners with a funded capital of Rupees 5,178-5-7, as particularized below :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Government Promissory Notes	2,000	0	0
Deposit receipts of the Bank of Madras	3,178	5	7
	5,178	5	7
Cash in the Taluq Treasury	273	7	11

Public subscriptions to the amount of Rupees 776-13-4 have been collected until December last. The arrears due from subscribers are now in course of collection.

17. The Dispensary built on public subscription is a well-ventilated and large building. During the year under report sufferers from small-pox and other infectious diseases were not admitted into it. The Commissioners were prepared to maintain in it, freely, patients from within as well as without the Municipality. But the number resorted to it for treatment as in-patients, it appears, is small.

18. Rupees 690 have been sanctioned on account of this institution in the budget for the Local Fund. But no portion of this sum has been received by the Commissioners. They learn from a letter from the President of the Local Fund that it has been detained by him for the supply of medicine and the medical subordinate under instruction from Government. The Commissioners hope they shall soon be favoured with the details of expenditure of this sum.

19. *Vaccination.*—That the Municipal Vaccinator has done his duty well will be perceived by the enclosure No. 5; the number of cases vaccinated during the year being 593, of which 463 were successful, showing an increase of sixty-five in the former and 194 in the latter over the result of the preceding year.

20. *Registration of Births and Deaths.*—For the purpose of registering births and deaths of this Municipality a Registrar has been entertained in August for the year under report. This department has afforded much satisfaction, the total of births and deaths registered for the year being 608 and 198, respectively.

21. Miscellaneous expenditure comprises the following items :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Printing	41	0	0
Stationery, &c.	56	13	6
Subscription for Gazette	22	8	0
Payment for President's Clerk	33	0	0
Table coverings	13	8	0
Post label for President's Office	5	0	0
A sketch of Chali	25	0	0
A clock	22	0	0
A punkah	15	0	0
Auditor's fee	75	0	0
Repairing cattle pound	27	13	4
Refund of current taxes on appeal	5	12	0
Census	68	2	8
Total ...	410	9	6

22. The population of the town, according to the census of 1871, is 20,438 ; the amount realized in the year from taxes and rates, giving an average payment of 6¼ Annas per head, was Rupees 8,226-4-6, against an expenditure of Rupees 10,981-2-11 on the whole.

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The town of Tellicherry having been the residence of its Chief Judges and Revenue Officers since long has been pretty clean. Since the Municipal Law came into force new roads were opened ; three-fourths of the town are gardens and intersected by winding and narrow lanes. These lanes in most parts hardly admit free passage to a single man, but the Commissioners have gradually widened them without loss to the proprietors, and have rendered them in several places fit for cart traffic. By these operations the ventilation of the town is also being increased.

23. The Commissioners think that most of the native inhabitants do not relish the introduction of the Municipality, having had to pay their revenue.

24. No Auditor having been appointed by Government under Section 34 of Act III. of 1871, the Commissioners resolved to have their accounts audited by Mr. Swyny, Head Clerk in the Civil and Session Court here, who has been auditing the municipal accounts since the opening of the Municipality in 1866-67. Although Mr. Swyny was requested by them to furnish his report by the end of March he was obliged to delay it owing to ill-health, &c. The Commissioners regret the delay in submitting their report so long, the cause for which they submit will be seen on a reference to the several dates on which the annual returns of the Civil Dispensary and the Auditor's report were received.

25. There are two important undertakings here which chiefly call for the attention of the Commissioners, being, in their opinion, useful to the well-being of the town. The first one is to give a systematic arrangement to some 100 buildings, occupied by fishermen, in two or three localities, who are Hindoos and Native Christians. These buildings, from the straggling nature of Malabar Towns, are built here and there, and can hardly be called houses. They cannot be arranged in any other way but by pulling down the whole and re-building them, in rows, of stones and with tiled roofs. The cost of this undertaking is estimated at not less than 30,000 Rupees. It is in these localities that cholera, small-pox, and other epidemic diseases first make their appearance, and the mortality on such occasions has been very great. The houses of the so-called houses having been built of combustible materials they have occasionally been apt to take fire. The residents are filthy too ; they store the fish in their own living houses, and seldom in huts or sheds built for the purpose. Somehow the reforms suggested must be effected.

The second undertaking consists in constructing proper laterite drains in the main bazaar ; the cost of this is estimated to amount to about Rupees 5,000.

The present fund at the disposal of the Commissioners is so small as not to allow the laying out of any portion of it in such undertakings ; the only way the Commissioners find of carrying out the above suggestions is either by increasing the revenue or by a loan from Government to be repaid by instalments.

26. The area of this Municipality being, as you are aware, circumscribed, the revenue derived is so small that it is hardly adequate to meet its ordinary expenses. For this reason the above undertakings they regret they are precluded from commencing. The Commissioners have found themselves hampered for want of funds, and they respectfully suggest that it is necessary to swell the funds by some other means without raising the clamour of the people. The subject has been widely considered, and the only conclusion the Commissioners arrived at is to request the sanction of the Government to concede to them the entire right of collecting the tolls on carriages and animals *entering* the municipal limits through the two high roads at Erinjoly and Kuduvully for the following reasons. The entrance to the Municipality are on the four roads marginally noted.

1. Road from Tellicherry to Kootiaddy, No. 17.
2. Road from Coimbatore to North Canara District, Imperial No. 5.
Municipal No. 11 (the southern entrance to the Municipality).
3. The above road north-west to the Municipality (at Kuduvully Bridge).
Road from Mysore, Wynaad, and Coorg to Tellicherry No. 7 (at Erinjoly Bridge).

The Commissioners, with the sanction of Government, now collect tolls at entrance No. 1, and the amount realized therefrom is between Rupees 100 and 150. They have obtained the sanction of Government to levy tolls also at the entrance No. 2 ; but knowing, as the Commissioners do, that it will oppress the people, they have not commenced levying tolls at this entrance as there is a toll at the Mahé Bridge, a mile distant from this entrance ; another at the entrance No. 3, two miles

from the entrance No. 2 ; and a third on the Kudakadava Bridge, a mile from the third entrance, all along the same road, and also as they doubt the realization of an adequate amount were they to establish it disregarding what is detailed above ; but should the Government, on a mature consideration of the matter, reject (which they hope not) their request and insist on opening a toll at this entrance, much as the Commissioners regret, they will be obliged to do so.

27. Full tolls are being collected by the Local Fund Board on carriages, &c., entering the *Municipality* at the entrances Nos. 3 and 4 mentioned in the above paragraph, and the Commissioners regret that the Government have ordered that only half of the collection would be given to them. Commissioners relying on the benevolent disposition of the Government beg that their request will be granted, inasmuch as the fund now at their disposal is small and their necessity for the same great, being wanted as expenditure for the welfare of the people.

28. Moreover the reading of Sections 77 and 78 of Act No. III. with Sections 62 and 63 of Act No. IV. of 1871 (both enactments were passed at the same time) clearly shows that the intention of the legislature was to concede to the Municipal Board, but not to the Local Fund Board, the right of levying tolls on carriages, &c., *entering the municipal limits*. But under the arrangement now in force the collections at these tolls *for entering the Municipality* are divided between the two Boards, each getting half.

29. Again, the appropriation by the Local Fund Board of part of these collections, the Commissioners submit, is illegal also from another point of view. The Local Fund Board are permitted to receive tolls for the use of their roads, and this they do when carriages, &c., travel over them. That they should again derive from these vehicles tolls when they leave their roads to enter those of the Municipal Board, the Commissioners submit, is neither legal nor equitable.

30. Malabar is a proprietary district ; each family for the most part, whether low or high, live in houses situated in its own garden. The proprietor or tenant pays the road-cess for the land in his possession. It was for this reason he is exempted by the Acts from paying toll for himself or load. But, contrary to the provisions of these Acts, tolls are levied by the Local Fund Board at the third and fourth entrances, even from poor females who pass and re-pass them with a little grass, firewood, vegetables, or grain for consumption, &c.

The practice of levying tolls on persons, with or without loads, existed when the people were passed in boats, and it was discontinued, after the construction of the bridges, on the kind recommendation of the Chief Judges of Tellicherry, and the people enjoyed the concession for a considerable time, but unfortunately it was removed lately, and the burden felt by the people, the Commissioners respectfully submit, is worthy of the consideration of the paternal Government.

31. If the Government should deign to transfer these two bridges constructed by Imperial Fund to the Commissioners, they respectfully offer that they shall share the cost of the repair of the bridges with the Local Fund Board, who may levy tolls on traffic outward.

32. The Commissioners presume that the collections made by the Local Fund Board exceeded the cost of the repair they lately made.

Sanitary Report of the Tellicherry Municipality for the year ended 31*st March* 1872.

Dispensary.—As I only arrived at this station on the 21st January of the current year, I am personally unable to give much information on this head ; but, from records left by my predecessors, I find that the number of in-patients has somewhat fallen off, the total treated for 1871-72 being 161 against 201 in the preceding year, while there is a slight increase in the number of out-patients, being 2,293 for 1871-72, against 2,208 during 1870-71. The year appears to have been a very healthy one ; no epidemic disease of any kind prevailing in the town, which may account for the above-mentioned disease in the number of in-patients. The principal diseases which occasioned admissions were ague, syphilis, rheumatism, dysentery, and diarrhœa, and skin diseases. The Dispensary building, which is comparatively new, is in good repair, well-ventilated, and its accommodation ample. It was built by private subscription, and was taken over by the Municipality last year.

Remarks by the Commissioners.

The Commissioners cannot but contradict this statement. Knowing as they do of the past and the present condition of the town they are constrained to say that it is as good as it might be with the funds at their disposal. The Sanitary Commissioner has also expressed his opinion favourably about it when he inspected it only a few months back. It is surprising that, with a few months residence in it, Dr. Hyde should bring to the notice of the Commissioners his opinion, for the first time now, about the sanitation of the town. Up to December there were four carts, six wheel-barrows, and twenty sweepers to look after the conservancy. The Executive Officer increases or decreases the staff as is necessary to save expenses. Three-fourths of the Municipality is composed of gardens, each garden having on the most part a house in it, and divided by narrow lanes inaccessible to the carts. It is unnecessary and impossible to attend to them. Tolerably passable lanes are attended to with wheel-barrows.

Sanitation.—The sanitary condition of the town of Tellicherry is not as good as it might be, very little having as yet been done for its improvement. There are at present only two carts employed by the Municipality for the conservancy of the whole town, with a population of, according to the last Census, 20,438 inhabitants. The main road running through the principal bazaar is kept tolerably clean by these carts, but the smaller streets and lanes are mostly in a very dirty condition, and cesspools exist in pretty nearly every house. A latrine on the dry-earth system has been erected in the centre of the town, and will be shortly thrown open for public use. Its site is objectionable and it is surrounded by houses some of which are within a few yards of its entrance ; it is, however, better than none, and if kept clean will not be likely to be deleterious to health, and it is certainly a step in the right direction ; other latrines along the sea beach are very much needed. Moveable dust-boxes have been provided in the principal streets by the Municipality, which are in good use.

The drainage is [illegible] to let the water freely into the sea or river. Should Commissioners have ample funds at their disposal they shall be glad to increase them, as resolved by their Proceedings dated 23rd January last.

Drainage.—Very little has as yet been done in the way of drainage, the few drains that exist having been constructed by the Jail authorities.

Markets.—A fish-market,* the result of private enterprise, is in existence, and worthy of commendation ; a meat-market† and slaughtering-houses are much needed, and their want felt by the butchers themselves at present ; the sheep are slaughtered in the open air in the centre of the town near the fish-market, and the blood, &c., allowed to soak into the earth.

Remarks by the Commissioners.

Yes. One could not be built in the town full of dwelling-houses, and there was no necessity for it for the year. It was customary with the Commissioners to build a temporary pavilion at a reasonable distance from the town when there be need, as they have done in the current year.

A practice of more than 1,000 years' standing throughout this district. After much discussion sometime back, the Commissioners resolved not to meddle with it.

Epidemic Diseases.—No provision is made for cases of small-pox and cholera, both of which diseases prevail from time to time, and which have to be taken into the Dispensary to the detriment of its general usefulness, as the inhabitants have naturally a dread of these diseases.

Burial of the Dead.—The practice of burying the dead in the compounds of private dwellings, which is carried on along this coast, is to be condemned ; but, as it is a custom of long standing, the Municipality are loth to interfere.

Vaccination.—Vaccination is kept up as much as possible among the inhabitants, and a vaccinator is employed for this purpose.

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* These are three, and not one.

† It is difficult to get a site in the town covered with so many buildings.—Vide paragraph 11 of the Commissioners report.

As before mentioned my residence here has been of very brief duration, and I am in consequence unable to make any fuller report on these subjects.

TELLICHERRY,
1st April 1872.

(Signed) H. HYDE, Assistant-Surgeon,
Zillah Surgeon.

No. 75. ORDER THEREON, 12th November 1872, No. 1509.

The receipts of the Tellicherry Municipality, for the year 1871-72, amounted to Rupees 12,286, and the expenditure to Rupees 10,981, leaving a balance of Rupees 1,305, of which Rupees 28 belong to the Dispensary and the remainder to the Municipal Fund. As the Dispensary Funds were only handed over to the Municipality during the year, the Dispensary balance of last year should have been shown as a municipal receipt, and not as a balance on hand. With this slight exception the returns accompanying the report have been correctly prepared, and the Auditor certifies to the very satisfactory state of the municipal accounts.

RECEIPTS.

		RS.
Current—		
Rate on houses		4,439
Tax on arts		842
Tax on vehicles		212
Registration of carts		20
Tolls		2,095
Fees		42
Fines		12
		7,662
Arrears—		
Government contribution		1,447
Taxes		564
Surplus Pound Fund		80
Hospitals		1,180
Contribution from Local Funds		729
Miscellaneous		124
Balance brought forward		500
Total		[illegible]

EXPENDITURE.

	RS.
Public Works—	
New Works	634
Repairs	4,618
Other items	59
	5,311
Dispensary	1,066
Vaccination	110
Registration of births and deaths	142
Conservancy	2,467
Supervision and management	1,843
Refunds	42
	10,981
Balance, Municipality	1,277
Do. Dispensary	28
Total	12,286

2. The receipts from [illegible] on Arts and Professions fell short of the demand by Rupees 3,938, in consequence of a revision of the register delaying the service of the notices, but the greater part of the arrears have since been realized.

3. The expenditure on Public Works amounted to Rupees 5,311, of which Rupees 4,941 were spent on roads, and Rupees 311 on sanitary works, the remaining Rupees 59 being used for the purchase of tools and plant.

4. The Dispensary was taken over by the Municipality during the year, and appears to have worked satisfactorily. A final adjustment of the expenditure on this institution had not been made by the close of the year.

5. The several Elementary Schools within the Municipality qualified for result grants to the extent of Rupees 644, but the amount was only disbursed during the current year. The delay appears to have occurred through some of the Commissioners objecting to the payment of so large an amount on the mere production of certificates. As the Government in G. O., dated 7th October 1872, No. 1359, have expressed their opinion that Municipalities are entitled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
12th November 1872.

to be furnished with any details of the expenditure they may require, and that the educational authorities should work in close concert with Municipal Commissions and Local Funds' Boards, it is hoped that no difficulty will be found in future in the way of prompt payment of such charges.

6. The Zillah Surgeon in his sanitary report animadverts on the meagre provision made by the Municipality for conservancy; but the President explains that the natural conditions of this Municipality, in common with others on the Western Coast, are such as to preclude the employment of the measures usually adopted elsewhere, and points out that the Sanitary Commissioner, who visited Tellicherry in November last, reported favourably of the general conservancy of the town.

7. The Commissioners complain, on the one hand, of the hardships caused by the tolls, and, on the other, of the inadequacy of the funds received from them under present arrangements. In support of the latter complaint it appears, from the accounts submitted, that, in the year under review, the sum of Rupees 2,117* was spent on communications in excess of the receipts from tolls and a special contribution from the Local Fund Board.

	RS.
*Tolls	2,095
Contribution	729
	2,824
Expenditure	4,941
Balance	2,117

*The President enters very fully in question and suggests the abolition of the toll on foot-passengers crossing the bridges near the Municipality limits, while to counterbalance the loss of revenue thus accruing he would slightly change the situation of two of the tolls so as to include the coffee traffic which at present escapes, and would raise the proportion of the toll receipts paid by the Local Fund Board to the Municipality. The Government approve generally of the proposals made by the President, but await the result of his communication with the Local Fund Board before passing final orders on the subject.

9. The Municipality is evidently unpopular with the inhabitants of Tellicherry, both European and Native. This the Commissioners ascribe to the usual dislike to taxation, but there seem to be other causes of dissatisfaction, and the Government will be glad to receive the report promised by the President in connexion with the numerously signed memorial lately received by him.

(True Extract.)

W. HUDLESTON,
Officiating Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Tellicherry.
" Board of Revenue.
" Revenue Department.
" Public Works "
" Inspector-General of Police.
" " " Indian Medical Department.
" Sanitary Commissioner.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" Accountant-General.
" President of the Local Fund Boards, Malabar.

Exd. J. Wright.

Revenue Dept

Gr.-3709.

Govt. of {1872} Madras

FINANCIAL.

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Tellicherry

&c., &c.,

Dated November, 12th.

Recd. — 19th — *Encl.*

G. O., 12th November 1872, No. 1509.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 27-28.

Reviewing the annual report on the work
the Tellicherry Municipality for 1871-72.

Gr.-119.

Lodged

20-Boxes