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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
11th October 1872.

No. 149. Read the following letter from the President of the Municipal Commission, Bellary, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Bellary, 5th September 1872, No. 78 :—

I have the honour to submit, in the forms which accompanied G. O., No. 1616, dated 28th October last, the statements of receipts and disbursements of the Bellary Municipality for 1871-72. They comprise the items of eleven months only, commencing from May 1871, when the new Act came into operation. The Auditor's annual report accompanies. Unfortunately, however, the accounts had been drawn up in the old form for his inspection, and his report refers to them in that form. They afterwards had to be re-written.

2. The estimates of this Municipality received the sanction of Government in their Order of 1st July 1871, No. 952. The receipts were estimated at Rupees 61,946. The actuals amounted to Rupees 59,681-10-7. This together with the balance on the 30th April 1871 makes Rupees 61,245-0-10.

3. The receipts from house-tax, under Section 40 of the Act, were estimated at Rupees 15,622, but the actuals realized Rupees 19,417, or an excess of Rupees 3,795; this is attributable to the large buildings on the railway premises being assessed for the first time.

4. Taxation on arts, under Section 57, realized only Rupees 7,005-9-2, against an estimate of Rupees 8,316; this is due to the late date (July) at which the trade and profession tax came into operation; collections did not commence till September.

5. The decrease in the assets under taxes on vehicles is owing to the Officer Commanding the 23rd Brigade, Royal Horse Artillery, persisting in his refusal to pay the taxes due on the horses of the Battery, for the half year ending 31st March 1872, till after the close of the year. The large decrease under tolls (Section 77) is attributed to the extension of the railway. The variations in the other items do not call for any special remark.

6. The total charges of the Municipality amount to Rupees 60,426-7-11 against allotments which aggregate Rupees 61,946.

7. The only work of any importance undertaken from the allotments sanctioned under Grant I., Public Works, is the Police Station of the Cowle Bazaar of Bellary. This work was undertaken previous to the year under report, but only now completed, a sum of Rupees 1,184-0-4 being expended in 1871-72. It is a first-class building from a design prepared by the Executive Engineer at Bellary, and the work was carried out under his supervision.

8. In consequence of the erection of the above station-house the old cattle pound, which formed a portion of the old station-house, was closed and another one commenced. As far as the work has proceeded it has cost the Municipality Rupees 450.

9. The other work of any importance undertaken by the Municipality is the construction of a causeway leading to the Cowle Bazaar across the upper part of the bed of the large tank. Its length is 915 feet with a parapet four feet in height. As far as the work has progressed it has cost the Municipality Rupees 3,849-9-6. What remains to be done will be constructed from the allotments of 1872-73, and will probably cost 800 Rupees more. The remaining works are of a minor nature and consist of improvements to existing communications, and, therefore, do not call for special remark.

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able. Great distress was experienced during the hot season of 1871, but for a timely fall of rain arrangements would have been made for procuring daily a supply of water from the Huggry River, about eight miles distant by rail, for which purpose the iron tanks used by the troops during the Abyssinian Expedition were obtained.

18. It was hoped that the completion of the Alipore project would have secured a permanent water supply to the Municipality, as water could have been let into the fort ditch. This has happily been accomplished; the control of the water has been vested, under the Proceedings of the Madras Government dated 13th August last, No. 1065, in the Executive Engineer of Bellary. The Commissioners have under their consideration, at present, a project for turning a jungle stream from Honully, a village five miles south of Bellary, into the large tank, and surveys and levels are now being taken. It is supposed that this scheme will cost about 5,000 Rupees.

19. Under the authority conveyed in paragraph 20 of the Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department, dated 1st July 1871, the Municipal Commissioners elected Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Ellenborough Dyneley, of the Madras Staff Corps, as their Vice-President.

20. The information called for by Government in their Proceedings in the Financial Department, dated 4th May 1872, No. 627, is afforded in the supplementary report of the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners, dated 26th July 1872.

21. The benefits of a Municipality are no doubt fully appreciated by the townspeople in general, and by the more prosperous classes of them in particular.

22. As might be expected, the imposition of the tax upon trades and professions simultaneously with the Imperial Income-tax is very unpalatable to the whole community of tax-payers. The Vice-President reports as follows:—

“The feeling of the military tax-paying community is not favourable to the Municipality, the imposition of the ‘Charger-tax’ in conjunction with the trades and professions tax, there being moreover an ‘Imperial Income-tax,’ is distasteful and prevents them from recognising so fully as they might otherwise the advantages of a Municipality.”

23. The list of Commissioners, called for in the Acting Under Secretary's Official Memorandum, No. 207, dated 31st ultimo, is enclosed.

From the Auditor of the Municipal Accounts, Bellary, to the President of the Municipal Commission, Bellary, dated Bellary, 24th April 1872.

With reference to your docket, No. 28, dated 8th March 1872, I have the pleasure to lay before the Commissioners a brief report on the result of my audit of the accounts of the Municipality of Bellary from the month of May 1871 to the end of March 1872.

2. The balance at credit of the Municipality of Bellary, on 30th April 1871, was Rupees 1,563-6-3, composed as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Cash in Bank	1,378	14	2
Advances unadjusted	155	0	0
Cash in Office	29	8	1
Total	1,563	6	3

10. Under the head of “Repairs” the Municipality have disbursed Rupees 10,212-0-8 against an allotment of Rupees 16,021. In most cases the repairs involved re-construction to a great extent, while in some instances it was also necessary to widen existing communications and bridges to meet the requirements of the town. From the same sum was met the cost of erecting sun-shades and other improvements to the Police Station-houses both in Brucepettah and in Cowle Bazaar.

11. Under the results' grant system a sum of Rupees 494-13-4 has been disbursed on account of eight schools of an elementary character. An application from the London Missionary Society for a grant-in-aid towards a Caste Girls' School is pending the result of the report of the Inspector of Schools.

12. By a notification published on page 99 of the Supplement to the District Gazette (municipal sheet) for the current year, the Civil Dispensary and a chuttrum at Bellary were formally transferred to the Municipality under the authority of Government conveyed in their Proceedings of 3rd May last, No. 622. In the former 5243 persons were treated as out-patients, while 197 were admitted as in-patients, thirteen of whom died themselves. A slight falling off is observed in the former.

13. It is gratifying to remark that no cholera prevailed within municipal limits during the year under report, although there have been a few cases in the district on the line of railway. The mortality from disease in the Civil Dispensary is stated to be about ten per cent. In the previous year it was so high as seventeen per cent.

14. The total number vaccinated during the year was 868, of which 827 were successful, forty-one unsuccessful, and two doubtful. Measures are in progress for obtaining a continued supply of fresh and good vaccine virus from the Presidency with the view of introducing the same into the town and district of Bellary. The endeavours to renew the virus direct from the cow set on foot by the Acting Civil Surgeon proved unsuccessful.

15. All the streets and thoroughfares in the Municipality are carefully cleaned under the supervision of the Conservancy Inspector. There is an increase of Rupees 95 in the cost of the Cantonment Conservancy Establishment, owing to the disbursement of that sum monthly to the Brigade Major for the up-keep of the night-soil pits of the different Corps. The conservancy of the town is carried out by a paid agency under the supervision of the Sub-Committees, and the sweepings of the latrines removed by contract are buried beyond the precincts of the Municipality. The excavation of these pits has cost Rupees 891-6-8.

16. With regard to other conservancy arrangements there may be specified the repair of mud latrines washed away during the rains, and the cleaning of the wells and reservoirs in the town during the drought, the raising and gravelling of the bandy-stands, filling up of hollows, the removal of prickly-pear in the vicinity of the Royal Horse Artillery and Cavalry Lines, and the employment of watchmen to preserve the drinking-water reservoirs from being fouled.

17. The water supply of this large Municipality is a source of great anxiety to the Commissioners. The wells in the Municipality depend for their supply chiefly on percolation from the tanks which are themselves rain-fed, and when there is a failure of the regular monsoons, drought, and its concomitant evil, disease, is inevitable.

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3. The actual collections amounted to Rupees 59,681-10-7, which together with the balance amounted to Rupees 61,245-0-10; the disbursements amounted to Rupees 60,426-7-11, leaving a closing balance of Rupees 818-8-11, composed as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Cash in Bank	656	3	7
Do. in Office	162	5	4
Total	818	8	11

4. The balance remaining to be realized is as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
House-tax	1,139	14	10
Trade and profession tax	2,830	8	4
Tolls	1,300	0	0
Fees (Section 136, Act)	86	8	0
Total	5,356	15	2

5. Statements A, B, and C were carefully compared with the cash-book and found correct.

6. The books examined are the various registers kept as required by the Act. The entries in one and all of these have been found quite correct, and every item in the cash-book is supported by a voucher, and the vouchers, I must say, are systematically and carefully filed.

7. The excellent and clean order in which the books of the office are kept is very creditable both to the Manager, Mr. J. Shrieves, and Iyloo, the Accountant, who have given me every assistance in my work.

Forwarded, in original, to the Vice-President, Bellary Municipal Commission.

(Signed) J. H. MASTER,
President.

26th April 1872.

Brief Annual Report on the Bellary Civil Hospital and Dispensary for the year 1871.

In forwarding the annual return of in and out patients treated at the Bellary Dispensary in 1871, I would remark, first, that the year under report has been healthy both in the town and in the Collectorate. No cholera has prevailed, though a few cases were reported at Ghooty and at a place near Soondoor, the Humpy and Mylar festivals passing off without disease. Small-pox has prevailed in Bellary and in parts of the district, but the numbers attacked are unknown.

There have been 197 patients admitted into hospital, of which thirteen died themselves, and 5243 have applied for medicines and treatment as out-patients. This, as far as the latter class is concerned, shows a falling off, and a falling off might have been shown of in-patients but for the number of surgical cases. Our mortality has not been so heavy, for it was last year more than seventeen per cent., this year about ten per cent. One death from compound fracture of the leg in an old man, where the limb was removed as the only chance for life. The other deaths were as follows:—Small-pox 1, fever 1, consumption 3, hydrophobia 1, dropsy 4, old age and general debility 3, diarrhoea 2, palsy 1, disease of liver 1, cancer of stomach 1, starvation 1, fungoid disease of foot 1.

The buildings are in fair order, and a new compound wall, which was much required, has been erected. The buildings formerly used for a Lock Hospital have been available since April, and have been used as special case wards. Formerly these were the stables of the private dwelling-house which now forms the dispensary. Some changes are to be made in them, but if there is any hope of a dispensary being built in a more convenient locality, it will be a pity if much money is spent in alteration.

The financial statement is not encouraging. Subscriptions and donations both from Europeans and Natives have fallen off woefully, and the balance in hand is Rupees 400 less than at the end of 1870. Our expenses have been greater owing to the larger sum required for medicines and

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instruments, Rupees 625 to 311, and for building and repairs Rupees 561 against Rupees 234 in 1870. Owing partly to the greater number of those who dieted themselves, and the average length of stay in hospital being shorter, the diets, &c., cost Rupees 100 less.

As the Government have notified their intention of transferring the dispensary to the Municipality, it would not be convenient here to suggest any changes in its management.

(Signed) H. HARPER, Surgeon-Major,
Garrison Surgeon, Bellary.
BELLARY,
2nd January 1872.

No. 150. ORDER THEREON, 11th October 1872, No. 1399.

The statements accompanying the annual report of the Bellary Municipality, for the year 1871-72, show that the receipts amounted to Rupees 61,245, and the expenditure to Rupees 60,426, a balance of Rupees 819 being thus left at the end of the year.

RECEIPTS.		RS.
Current—		19,417
Rate on houses		7,006
Tax on arts		7,221
Tax on vehicles		846
Registration of carts		12,420
Tolls		2,006
Fees		1,196
Fines		50,112
Arrears—		1,555
Tolls		69
Fees		3,132
State contribution		4,660
State contribution to Cantonment		153
Roads		1,564
Sundries		61,245
Balance brought forward		
Total		

EXPENDITURE.		RS.
Public Works		21,226
Education		495
Dispensary		550
Vaccination		220
Registration of births and deaths		366
Conservancy		23,288
Lighting		3,701
Planting and watering trees		3,110
Supervision and management		7,015
Refunds		455
Balance		60,426
		819
Total		61,245

3. The receipts from house rates exceeded the estimate by Rupees 3,795 owing to the building on the Railway premises having been assessed for the first time. The tax on arts fell short by Rupees 1,310 in consequence of the late date on which that tax came into operation, and there was also a decrease of Rupees 1,579 in the tax on vehicles and animals through the Officer Commanding the 23rd Brigade, Royal Horse Artillery, declining to pay the taxes on the Battery

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Horses till after the close of the year. From Statement IV. it appears that there was an arrear demand of assessment on houses and arts, amounting to Rupees 3,970, of which no portion was collected during the year. If there is no prospect of realizing this amount, it should be written off as irrecoverable.

4. The principal expenditure took place under the head of Public Works (Rupees 21,226) and Conservancy (Rupees 23,288). Result grants to the extent of Rupees 495 were paid to Elementary Schools, and a sum of Rupees 550 was disbursed on account of the dispensary, although that institution was not formally transferred to the Municipality until after the close of the year. There were 197 in-patients and 5243 out-patients treated during the year.

5. A considerable sum was expended on lighting and planting avenue trees, and a fair commencement seems to have been made in vaccination and registration of births and deaths.

6. With reference to G. O., dated 4th May 1872, No. 627, the Commissioners report that the townspeople in general, and the more prosperous classes in particular, recognise the benefits of the Act, but that the imposition of the tax upon arts simultaneously with the Income-tax is very unpalatable. The military community especially object to the "Charger-tax." The majority of the townspeople do not regard the tolls as obstructive to trade.

(True Extract.)

Calcutta
Acting Under Secy. to Govt.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Bellary.

- „ Board of Revenue.
- „ Revenue Department.
- „ Public Works Department.
- „ Inspector-General of Police.
- „ „ „ Indian Medical Department.
- „ Sanitary Commissioner.
- „ Director of Public Instruction.
- „ Accountant-General.
- „ President of the Local Fund Boards, Bellary.

Exd. J. Wright.

Order

No 3418

Revenue Dept
Govt. of 1872 Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To
THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Bellary,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated October, 11th.

Recd. *24* *Encl.*

G. O., 11th October 1872, No. 1399.

Belary

OCTOBER.
Nos. 149-150.

Reviewing the annual report on the working of
the Bellary Municipality for 1871-72.

1874.
Madras
24 Oct 72.