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Revenue DEPARTMENT

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Dated 25th November 1873 19—.

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department, 19th November 1873.

No. 113. Read the following letter from W. S. FOSTER, Esq., President of the Municipal Commissions, Godavery District, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Cocanada, 26th September 1873, No. 8:—

I have the honour to forward the report on the working of the Municipal Act (III. of 1871), in the town of Rajahmundry, for the official year ending 31st March 1873.

2. The Auditors' report and receipt for the fees are also enclosed.

3. As the full information required has been embodied in the report received from the Vice-President, I send copy of his letter and the original accounts concerned, for the information of the Government, without annexing its contents in this report.

From J. F. SMITH, Esq., Vice-President of the Municipal Commission, Rajahmundry, to W. S. FOSTER, Esq., President of the Municipal Commissions, Godavery District, dated Rajahmundry, 29th August 1873, No. 38.

I have the honour to report on the working of the Municipal Act (III. of 1871), in the town of Rajahmundry.

2. *Balance at the beginning of the Year.*—The year commenced with a balance of Rupees 3,045-10-9, of which Rupees 2,989-2-1 was the Municipal Fund, and Rupees 56-8-8 Endowment Fund (Civil Dispensary).

3. RECEIPTS.—Allotment by Government, Rupees 1,191-15-6 were received from Government on account of eight Police huts built by this Municipality (*vide* G.O., No. 41, of 9th January 1873).

4. *House-tax.*—The collections realized under this head are Rupees 2,930-7-7, of which Rupees 5-9-11 is arrears. This tax was levied according to the rates of the previous years The tax is easily collected. Only one appeal was preferred and the appellant was exempted on the ground of poverty, forty-two demand notices and fifteen distress warrants were issued. Only one attachment was made.

5. *Professional tax.*—The entire collections under this tax amount to Rupees 5,466-8-0, showing an excess of Rupees 2,828-4-4 over that of last year. The registers and rates for this tax were revised in this year. The number of persons taxed is 1945, which exceeds that of the last year by 657. There were 361 appeals against this tax. Of these 182 were rejected; forty-seven appellants were exempted on the ground that they were not exercising any trade; and 132 were reduced to a lower class. Rupees 237 were refunded to the successful appellants.

6. *Tolls.*—The right of collecting tolls was sold to a Contractor for Rupees 2,325. The whole of this amount has been realized partly as instalments paid in advance last year, partly by collections this year with the exception of one kist Rupees 193-12-0, which was exempted on account of a claim for reduction made by the Contractor by reason of interference with traffic at the time of the Pushkarum feast (*vide* G.O., No. 977, of 23rd August 1872); Rupees 50-1-0 was credited this year on account of tolls of the previous year.

7. *Tax on Vehicles, &c.*—The sum collected under this tax is Rupees 548-0-8, of which Rupees 11-0-8 is arrears.

8. *Registration of Carts.*—Rupees 157 received under this head.

9. *Fees.*—Rupees 419-6-8 were received under this head, for which a separate statement is herewith enclosed.

10. *Fines.*—Rupees 219-12-0 were realized on account of fines.

11. *Endowments.*—Rupees 1,078-11-5 were received on account of Civil Dispensary, of which Rupees 68-13-11 is interest on the vested fund. Rupees 790-13-6 is the subscription on account of medicines, and Rupees 219 is the amount debited for dieting pauper travellers and men concerned in magisterial cases under investigation.

12. *Contributions from Local Funds, Miscellaneous.*—Rupees 1,324-3-8 were received from the Local Fund as a contribution for the Civil Dispensary.

13. *Miscellaneous Receipts.*—These consist of rents and fees of Municipal slaughter-houses, private scavengering, quit-rent, fees paid in travellers' bungalow, and other minor receipts, amounting in all to Rupees 1,133-5-9.

14. EXPENDITURE.—*New Works, Communications.*—Rupees 944-2-11 were spent under this head, of which Rupees 317-0-6 were spent in completing the roads undertaken last year in Innespetta as shown in Statement II.-A. Rupees 445-2-0 were expended in making a new road in Chuttrum Street. Steps are being taken to widen and improve this street. Rupees 147-2-7 were spent in constructing a platform in Innespetta to serve as a curry and fruit bazaar. Rupees 34-13-10 were spent in constructing a road in front of the Police huts and gravelling the same.

15. *Sanitary and Miscellaneous.*—As detailed in Statement II.-A, Rupees 1,274-3-2 were spent under this head, of which Rupees 641-4-0 were expended in constructing four permanent latrines after the Coimbatore model, two of them were completed; thirty-one permanent dust-bins were built of brick-in-chunam at a cost of Rupees 157-10-0; Rupees 417-15-0 were spent in constructing six road tunnels in different places. Rupees 365 were spent in completing eight Police huts during this year in addition to the amount spent in previous years.

16. *Repairs.*—Rupees 905-14-2 were spent in repairing the existing roads, &c., as particularized in Statement II.-A, Part II.

17. *Grant* II., *Educational.*—Rupees 168-4-0 were paid as results' grants to Pial Schools on the certificate of the Director of Public Instruction, and Rupees 105 was the salary grants for the Madanasingpetta School. Rupees 100 were paid to the Local Fund Board for Educational Inspection.

18. *Grant* III., *Dispensary.*—Rupees 5,101-14-7 were spent in maintaining the Civil Dispensary, of which Rupees 1,008-13-8 were paid for the charges incurred for the last year. Three huts for caste patients and one for infectious ward were built at a cost of Rupees 173-2-7 in this year. The rest is spent for the establishment, dieting paupers travellers, &c., as shown in the enclosed statement. One permanent vaccinator is employed on Rupees 10 per mensem, and two were employed temporarily in the beginning of the year as small-pox was then prevalent. Rupees 174-1-9 were spent on the above establishment, and Rupees 5-5-0 in paying batta to the vaccinators at the rates noted in the margin.

Rupee 0 3-0 under one year of age.
" 0-2-0 between one and five.
" 0-1-0 above five.

19. *Conservancy.*—Rupees 1,042-12-2 were spent on conservancy, of which Rupees 4,722-12-2 was for establishment, and Rupees 120 was the cost of two dust-carts.

20. *Grant* IV., *Miscellaneous Municipal purposes.*—Rupees 1,265-1-9 were spent for lighting, of which Rupees 135-1-5 was for establishment; Rupees 1,130-0-4 for cocoanut oil, kerosine oil and kerosine lamps, &c.; Rupees 3-2-0 were spent in watering streets and planting avenues; and Rupees 15-11-9 in cutting weeds, &c.; Rupees 8-9-0 were spent in cleaning Chuttrums. Rupees 303-4-8 were spent in maintaining the travellers' bungalow, of which Rupees 145-2-4 was for establishment, and Rupees 168-2-4 for eatables and sundry articles required. A piece of garden was bought, at a cost of Rupees 100, for a Mahomedan burial-ground, and Rupees 68-12-0 was expended in giving rewards for killing 227 snakes.

21. *Grant* V., *Superintendence and Management.*—Rupees 1,577-11-0 were spent under this head including Office Establishment and Contingencies.

22. Rupees 3-6-8 was refund of Profession-tax levied in 1871-72.

23. *Deposits.*—Rupees 311 was instalment of the Vandystand contract rents paid in advance last year. It was credited against the deposit on the Contractor this year, and is debited in the deposit accounts. Rupees 261-12-9 were received as deposits from toll and Vandystand contractors for the year 1873-74.

24. Balance amounted to Rupees 3,298-12-4, of which Rupees 97-15-7 was balance of Endowment Fund, and Rupees 3,200-12-9 Municipal Fund.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
19th November 1873.

25. The Commissioners met twenty-eight times for the transaction of business during the year and disposed of 1145 petitions, of which 813 were for re-thatching houses and building tiled houses or compound walls, and 332 were miscellaneous petitions.

26. The health of the town was fair. There were only thirty-seven cases of nominal cholera. In reality they were choleraic diarrhœa. Small-pox was somewhat severe. The additional vaccinators appointed last year were retained in this year for three months, after which they were dispensed with. Fever made its appearance at the beginning of the year. The enclosed statement shows the number and causes of deaths during the year under report.

27. Copies of the Auditors' report and their receipt, and that of the Civil Surgeon in charge of the Dispensary, and the statement prepared under G.O., No. 822, of 12th June 1873, are herewith enclosed.

28. Demand, collection, and balance are shown in Statement IV. Out of the balance of Rupees 1,608-11-3, Rupees 556-14-5 were subsequently collected, and almost all the rest will be written off as irrecoverable. The cause of having so much uncollected balance at the close of the year is owing to the raising of the Profession-tax and to the fact that the collection of the tax commenced in July instead of April.

We, the undersigned, hereby certify that we have audited the accounts of the Rajahmundry Municipality for the year 1872-73, and found that all sums received were duly brought to account and that all disbursements were supported by proper vouchers.

RAJAHMUNDRY,
9th July 1873.

(Signed) M. VENKATASWAMI,
(") D. VENKATA RAU, } *Auditors.*

Received this 10th day of July 1873, from the Commissioners of the Rajahmundry Municipality, a sum of Rupees (60) sixty only, on account of the remuneration due to us for auditing the accounts of the Rajahmundry Municipality for the year 1872-73.

(Signed) M. VENKATASWAMI,
(") D. VENKATA RAU, } *Auditors.*

Extracts from the Annual Medical Report of the Civil Dispensary at Rajahmundry for 1872-73.

The temperature during the past hot season was very high, the thermometer having risen to 107° in the shade. The quantity of rain gauged during the south-west monsoon amounted to 38 inches, and the river rose oftener than usual and to a much greater height particularly at the time of the "Pushkaram" festival, when it not only overflowed its banks, but also laid several of the streets in the lower parts of the town under water for a considerable period, nearly a week, before it went down again. The cold weather was all the more pleasant and enjoyable after the great heat and consequent discomfort we had endured, but it did not last long, and we are now beginning to swelter again already.

Dysentery prevailed to a great extent throughout the district in October, and appeared to be owing to sudden changes in the weather during that month.

Excepting the dry grains grown in the uplands, where hardly any rain fell during the north-east monsoon, the crops have, on the whole, been good, especially the paddy which was abundant, and but for its large exportation both by sea and land would be very cheap.

Fevers, bowel-complaints, rheumatism, and affections of the eye and ear have been the most prevalent diseases.

Cholera appeared in the district about the middle of July, and was rather severe in some parts; it afterwards made its appearance here in a sporadic form. Large quantities of cholera pills were distributed to all the taluqs. The disease, which was introduced from the Vizagapatam district, finally disappeared in November.

The last severe visitations of small-pox, which began in the hot season of 1871, continued until the first quarter of the year under review, and then gradually died out. But I regret to say the disease has again made its appearance in the Yernagoodem and other taluqs, and threatens to prove as destructive as ever.

Nothing short of compulsory vaccination will overcome this evil, all other means having been tried and found ineffectual.

Fever has, as usual, been prevalent since the termination of the monsoon, though not to any considerable extent.

* * *

I am glad to be able to report the steady though very slow improvement in the condition of the town. Out of a total of some nine hundred and odd private latrines, five hundred have been taken charge of by the Municipality, and, as no dry earth is used, are kept as clean as could be expected, and the remainder will probably also be taken up during the present year. I would here observe that the efforts of the Commissioners in this direction are in a great measure frustrated, owing to the abominably filthy habits of some of the native inhabitants. To give but one instance. The Brahmins are in the habit of evacuating their bowels in the leaf-plate they eat out of and then throwing it into any hole or corner.

As regards the burial of Mahomedans, a piece of ground outside the town has been purchased for this purpose and will shortly be used as a cemetery by all this class of persons except the heads of some fifty families who are to be allowed to lay their bones along with those of their ancestors.

There is a large number of open cesspits situated, for the most part, in the public streets and lands of the town, and the contents of several of them having been examined and found to contain more or less feculent matter which is a dangerous nuisance, I am of opinion they ought all to be done away with at once. This subject has been brought prominently to the notice of the Commissioners, who, I hope, will yet see the necessity of attending to my recommendation when they find it next to impossible to keep the pits clean.

In all other respects Rajahmundry would, I think, compare favourably with the generality of Indian towns.

The two classes of patients treated at the dispensary during the year number as follows:—

In-patients	219
Out-patients	4,470

Fevers, disorder of the bowels, and affections of the eye, ear, and skin have been the prevailing diseases.

Twenty-three deaths occurred in hospital chiefly among pauper travellers and pilgrims who die as much from inanition as from disease.

None of the patients supported themselves.

* * * * *
* * *

Three cottages for caste patients and an infectious ward on the plan sketched by the Deputy Inspector-General in his last annual report in this institution have been erected in the dispensary compound, and all the other recommendations made by the late Dr. Blacklock have likewise been carried into effect.

A dead-house for the reception of bodies brought in here from the surrounding district by the police for examination is very much needed at this central station.

The finances of the dispensary continue satisfactory, the only subscriptions now collected are on account of medicines, and these amounted to Rupees 709-13-9.—See annual financial statement attached.

RAJAHMUNDRY,
1*st April* 1873.

(Signed) C. DOIG, *Assistant-Surgeon,*
Acting Zillah Surgeon.

No. 114. ORDER THEREON, 19th November 1873, No. 1681.

With his letter above recorded, the President of the Rajahmundry Municipality submits the report for the year 1872-73. The estimated and actual receipts and expenditure are compared below:—

RECEIPTS.	Estimates.	Actuals.
	RS.	RS.
Balance brought forward ...	1,000	3,046
Assignments by Government..	...	1,192
Rate on Houses, &c.	3,110	2,931
Tax on Arts, &c.	3,030	5,372
Tax on Vehicles, &c.	600	548
Registration of Carts	130	157
Tolls	2,100	2,181
Fees	740	719
Fines	270	0
Endowments, &c.	740	1,079
Contribution from Local Funds	870	1,324
Miscellaneous	150	1,133
Advances recovered	...	120
Total ...	12,740	19,722

CHARGES.	Estimates.	Actuals.
	RS.	RS.
Grant I.—		
New Works	1,400	2,683
Repairs	1,120	906
Establishment	300	196
Tools and Plant	30	26
Grant II.—		
Salary Grants	...	165
Results' Grants	660	168
Contribution to Local Funds for Inspection	690	100
Grant III.—		
Hospitals and Dispensaries	2,510	3,132
Vaccination	120	182
Registration of Births, &c..	...	7
Conservancy	3,930	4,885
Grant IV.—		
Lighting	580	1,265
Other items	50	1,007
Grant V.—		
Office...	1,200	1,112
Miscellaneous	150	466
Advances recovered	...	120
Refunds...	...	3
Balance...	...	3,239
Total ...	12,740	19,722

2. The assignment by Government was sanctioned after the budget had been passed. The House-tax realized, together with the balance of Rupees 164 outstanding at the close of the year, was only a few Rupees short of the estimate, and the Government observe that that tax is stated to be easily collected. The Profession-tax was revised during the year, and the result was an increase in the collections of Rupees 2,342 over the estimate, besides an uncollected balance of Rupees 1,444, of which, however, a large portion is believed to be irrecoverable. The contribution of Rupees 1,324, paid by the Local Fund on account of the dispensary, should have been included in the entry in Column 6, Statement I.-A. If this be done, the minus balance made good by the Municipality is reduced to Rupees 673.

3. The expenditure on New Works, Communications, amounted to Rupees 944 against a sanctioned estimate of Rupees 1,100, but the outlay on Sanitary and Miscellaneous New Works exceeded the estimate by Rupees 1,074, the additional funds available from the increase in the receipts having permitted of further allotments for conservancy purposes, such as latrines, dust-bins, and small drains. The information submitted regarding educational operations is very meagre; but, as the

expenditure on Salary and Results' Grants did not amount to more than Rupees 333, it is presumed that but little progress was made. The high expenditure on the dispensary is explained to have been owing to the payment of arrear charges. The in-patients attending the dispensary numbered 219, and the out-patients 4470. The attendance of the previous year should also have been stated. The Government are glad to observe that the health of the town is reported to have been fair, and that the Acting Zillah Surgeon considers that there has been a steady improvement in the condition of the town under the sanitary measures adopted by the Municipality.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Rajahmundry.
,, Public Works Department.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Board of Revenue.
,, Accountant-General.
,, Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
,, Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
,, Director of Public Instruction.
,, President of the Local Fund Board, Godavery District.

Ex. J. Wright.

Rev: 1873 : Dept
No. 3764

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Rajahmundry,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated November, 19th.

Recd. — 22? Encl.

G.O., 19th November 1873, No. 1081.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 113-114.

Rajahmundry Municipality.—Annual report of this Municipality for the year 1872-73, reviewed.

No 157

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25: Nov: 1873