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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rec DEPARTMENT

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
25th August 1873.

No. 172. Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Coimbatore, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Coimbatore, 12th July 1873, No. 33:—

I have the honour to submit the report required by Section 34, Act III. of 1871, in reference to the Coimbatore Municipal Commission for the year 1872-73.

2. The transfer of the institutions marginally noted has been effected during the year, together with the funds attached thereto. Statement I.-A shows the funded capital and other receipts of these endowments.
1. Lunkerkhana.
 2. Travellers' Bungalow.
 3. Civil Dispensary.

3. The collections during the year under report with the opening balance amounted to Rupees 37,977-9-11, showing a net increase of Rupees 9,149-6-5, which is owing to the transfer of the institutions above referred to, as well as the increased receipts under other heads, as will be seen by the statements.

4. The chief sources of income are those noted in the margin. The receipts from tolls stand foremost, being 10,000 Rupees, and giving a proportion of more than 26 per cent. on the total income.
1. Rates on houses.
 2. Tax on vehicles.
 3. Registration of carts.
 4. Tolls.
 5. Rents on buildings.

5. The taxes on houses and lands were levied at the maximum rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of their assumed annual rental; the income is 21 per cent. of the total receipts. With the exception of a small balance of Rupees 360-10-11, the whole demand has been realized.

6. The following abstract shows the result of a few of the items of increase, particulars of all being exhibited in the prescribed statement:—

	RS.	A.	P.
1. House-tax, increase over last year	607	4	10
2. Tax on vehicles	126	4	0
3. Tolls	200	0	0
4. Fees on license depôts	425	2	7
5. Fines	97	4	6
6. Rents of markets	1,356	9	6
7. Value of lands sold	621	8	0
8. Endowment, &c. (new item)	4,624	13	3
9. Other items	1,090	7	9
Total	9,149	6	5

7. The lunkerkhana institution, besides supporting itself, has left a surplus of Rupees 1,594-3-4 out of Rupees 2,692-5-8, which has been utilized in feeding poor patients in the hospital, &c.

8. The travellers' bungalow, like the lunkerkhana, has been self-supporting; the fees collected during the year amounted to Rupees 269-8-0.

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9. The receipts on account of the dispensary amounted to Rs. 4,128-12-4, plus Rupees 500 contributed from the municipal funds, as shown below:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Opening balance	1,820	12	9
By interest	1,128	4	7
By contribution from Local Funds	*645	0	0
Sale of medicines, &c.	534	11	0
	4,128	12	4
Municipal contribution	500	0	0
Total	4,628	12	4

and the charges on that account amounted to Rupees 4,455-13-7, leaving a balance of Rupees 172-14-9.

10. The total expenditure during the year amounted to Rupees 37,902-11-9, as detailed in Statement No. II., of which the following are the chief items of increase:—

	RS.
1. Communications, New Works and Repairs	921
2. Sanitary and Miscellaneous	1,144
3. Sanitary Establishment	357
4. Results' Grants	792
5. Medical Establishment, supplies of	4,596
and sundries (new item)	1,318
6. Conservancy Establishment	987
7. Langerkah, cost of establishment, feeding paupers, and sundries (new item)	10,115
Total	10,115

11. A larger expenditure has been made in Communications and Roads, principally in repairs. A sum of Rupees 1,756 has been spent in maintaining the Pothanoor Road. New roads have been laid out in the new town near Magaliamman Covil, which cost Rupees 558, and several streets and roads have been improved and connected with each other. A road dam to the Noyel River, owing to the failure of the bridge, had cost Rupees 417.

12. Sanitary and miscellaneous improvements have been effected in the municipal market at a cost of Rupees 2,573.

13. Three new latrines for females have been constructed during the year at a cost of Rupees 774, and a slaughter-house at a convenient place at a cost of nearly Rupees 1,400. A new ward was added to the dispensary, which cost Rupees 782, and a veranda added to the main building at a cost of Rupees 240. A compound wall was likewise built, all adding much to the value of the building and comfort and convenience of the inmates thereof.

14. A sum of Rupees 822-3-10 has been expended in constructing two new wells and cleansing existing reservoirs and wells.

* In arrears for 1871-72.

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15. The increase in the Public Works and Conservancy Establishments of Rupees 357-3-5 and Rupees 1,318-1-3, respectively, is attributable to the increased salaries given and additional staff employed.

16. Rupees 554-13-4, balance of debt due to Government by the Municipality as shown in G.O., 27th March 1872, No. 385, were paid to Government on the 5th April 1872.

17. The following abstract shows the results of deaths and births within the Municipality:—

	1871-72.	1872-73.	DIFFERENCE.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
Births	503	653	150	...
Deaths	408	424	16	...

18. Small-pox was the chief cause of the increased mortality. The birth increase is due to better registration.

19. The following abstract shows the result of vaccination:—

	1871-72	Number vaccinated.	Number proved successful.
1871-72	1,153	1,102	
1872-73	3,591	3,046	
Increase	2,438	1,944	

20. The population of the town having at last Census been found to amount to 34,930, the last year's vaccination was ten per cent. of the whole number, and exceeded the number of births by 2,393, or 550 per cent.

21. A special return, showing the incidence of the various rates and taxes in the Municipality, called for in G.O. of the 12th June 1873, No. 822, is annexed.

22. The annual report on the Civil Dispensary for 1872-73 is annexed.

23. The accounts of the Municipality were audited by Mr. Shepherd, of the Firm of Messrs. Stanes and Rouse, and his report is herewith submitted.

24. The Coimbatore Municipality have to regret the loss of their able Honorary Secretary, Streenevassa Charry, by promotion to a Judicial appointment.

25. The improvement of the town has been generally remarked on, both by visitors and former residents.

From Mr. W. E. SHEPHERD, Auditor of the Municipal Accounts, Coimbatore, to A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Coimbatore, dated Coimbatore, 6th May 1873.

I beg to state that I have audited the accounts of the Municipal Commission for the year ending the 31st March 1873, and found them perfectly correct; all the necessary vouchers and registers required by the regulations have been kept. The accounts are in a very satisfactory state, and much credit is due to the Honorary Secretary, to whose zeal and diligence this state of things may be attributed.

2. The annual statement is herewith enclosed.

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RECEIPTS.			ES. A. P.			EXPENDITURE.			ES. A. P.			ES. A. P.		
1. Balance brought forward—						By Grant I., Public Works			14,925 14 9					
(a) Municipal Fund			3,046 14 2			do. II., Education			1,834 3 2					
(b) Hospital			1,820 12 9			do. III., Sanitation and Medical Services			14,293 4 5					
2. Assignments and Allotments by Government—						do. IV., Miscellaneous Municipal purposes			4,435 6 5					
(a) Surplus Pound Fund			110 11 2			do. V., Supervision and Management			1,859 1 8					
3. Rates and Taxes—						Refunds other than of current taxes ...			554 13 4			37,347 14 5		
(a) Rates on houses and lands (Section 40) ...			7,792 15 3			Total ...						554 13 4		
(a) Tax on vehicles, &c.			1,005 12 0									37,902 11 9		
(c) Registration of carts			1,445 0 0											
(e) Tolls			10,000 0 0											
(f) Fees			465 3 0											
(g) Magisterial fines			176 3 0											
5. Endowments and sundry contributions, &c.—						Balance—								
(a) Hospital			1,662 15 7			a) Municipal Fund			6 9 2					
Lungerkhana			2,692 5 8			b) Endowments, Hospital			68 5 0			74 14 2		
Travellers Bungalow			269 8 0											
6. Contributions from Local Fund—														
Hospital			645 0 0											
7. Miscellaneous—														
(a) Rents of municipal markets			1,507 1 4											
(b) Rents of municipal slaughter-house			530 0 0											
(c) Rent and fees of municipal cart-stand			635 0 0											
(d) Sale of sweepings			10 14 0											
(f) Sale of materials, tools, and plant			15 0 0											
(g) Avenues			161 10 0											
(h) Value of lands sold			3,392 8 0											
(i) Sale of market garden produce			22 4 0											
Total						Total ...						37,977 9 11		

(Signed) W. E. SHEPHERD,
Auditor.

COIMBATORE,
6th May 1873.

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Annual Report of the Civil Dispensary, Coimbatore, for the year 1872.

Number of Sick.	In-patients.		Increase.
	In-patients.	Out-patients.	
Remained 31st December 1871	11	15	...
Admitted since	174	6,245	17
Discharged	160	6,248	371
Died	15	1	...
Remaining 31st December 1872	10	11	...
Average daily sick	11.05	35.69	...

1. *Observations on the Climate and Season of the past Year and condition of Public Health in the Station and surrounding District.*—Information under this head is given in the Jail Report.

2. *Detailed narrative of any epidemic Disease.*—No epidemic has existed in Coimbatore during the past year. Small-pox has existed to a certain extent in all the taluqs of the Coimbatore District, and also in the town itself. Of the number attacked, very few presented themselves at the Civil Dispensary for treatment; four as out-patients and only three as in-patients during the whole year. The natives have peculiar ideas regarding this disease, and consider any curative treatment wrong. Measles and chicken-pox prevailed to a slight extent during September and October in Coimbatore and adjacent villages. Dengue broke out in an epidemic form at Caroor on 18th October 1872, and continued during the year.

No cholera except at Bhowany, where sixteen fatal cases were reported. On the report of the outbreak cholera medicines were at once forwarded. The attack was confined to the month of March.

3. *Principal diseases and classes of disease prevalent during the year.*—It is gratifying to be able to report the continued appreciation of the benefits conferred by the Civil Dispensary. The principal diseases during the past year have been as follows:—

Fevers, principally of an intermittent type.—One thousand four hundred and ninety-five were treated as out-patients and thirty-two as in-patients. The majority assumed no severe form. The two fatal cases under the head "Remittent Fever" were brought to the dispensary in a moribund condition, one dying a few hours after admission.

Ulcers.—Admissions under this head have been unusually high, having risen from 605 to 814. They assumed various characters—indolent, fistulous, varicose, sloughing, and in several a grave phagedenic form, frequently loaded with maggots, and often indicating a syphilitic taint. In two instances they terminated fatally, one of them a few hours after admission.

Diarrhoea and Dysentery show an increase of 109 over the past year; 370 cases were treated and five terminated fatally.

Conjunctivitis has been very prevalent, attributable, no doubt, to the high winds which prevailed for many months during the year; it yielded invariably to the application of solution of nitrate of silver.

Rheumatism.—Principally chronic and more than half giving rise to a suspicion of syphilitic taint.

Venereal Diseases.—Although the total number of admissions has been less this year, yet the number of grave cases has increased, and there is evidence which leads me to suppose that this disease is as prevalent as ever, if not on the increase.

The case of compound fracture of tibia and fibula (with gangrenous state of limb) which terminated fatally was sent from Palghaut eleven days after the injury. On the patient's arrival

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at the hospital he was found to be in a very low and exhausted state. Pyæmia had set in, and the whole of the thigh from the hip to the mortified parts under the knee was much inflamed and gorged by infiltration, resulting from diseased action. The only chance of saving the patient's life was an operation, but to this he firmly objected.

6. *Economic statistics and management of the Hospital, accompanied by a financial statement showing the income and expenditure and funded capital of the year in Form No. 36.*—From the financial statement appended, it appears that the expense has been 1,595 Rupees in excess of receipts. But this has been occasioned altogether in enlarging, improving, and furnishing the hospital, and on other accounts which are not likely to occur. The ordinary expense is well within the receipts.

7. *Condition as to usefulness of lying-in ward, if any.*—During the past year the admission as in-patients into the lying-in ward were nine and sixteen; more attended at their own houses either by the native midwife or myself. Some prejudice has still to be overcome ere this branch of the institution is resorted to as it ought to be. Probably the situation of the lying-in ward has something to do with the existence of this prejudice. It is contiguous to the casual female ward, in which cases of all descriptions, contagious and otherwise, are admitted. I have had a notice inserted in the *Coimbatore Gazette* in English and Tamil to the effect that the ward is open, and that women desirous of acquiring a knowledge of midwifery and wishing to qualify themselves as nurses will be instructed by me on their presenting themselves at the dispensary. The services of the midwife attached to the lying-in ward seem to be appreciated, as she is frequently asked to attend women of a better class than that which usually avail themselves at the institution.

Lady Hobart has expressed a wish that a new female ward should be built, and has subscribed very liberally towards it. It is proposed that it shall be a lying-in ward, the present one being convertible into a general female ward.

8. *Changes in, or addition to Hospital Buildings, &c., during the Year.*—Very great improvements and additions have been made in the Civil Dispensary and its compound. A large pukka veranda has been added to the front of the dispensary; the whole flooring of the wards and verandas has been repaired, smoothed, and covered with a preparation of tar and asphalt.

A building first intended as an operating-room and deadhouse has now been converted with some trifling alterations into a ward for Europeans, which will, I think, be a boon to that section of the community. It is capable of accommodating four patients, and has a bath-room attached.

A simply constructed infectious ward (wattle and dab with leaf roofing) accommodating six patients has been put up on the new ground lately purchased and added to the dispensary compound. It is proposed to erect a similarly constructed deadhouse behind the contagious ward as far from the hospital building as possible. A room formerly used for stores has been turned into a caste ward capable of accommodating two patients.

The block consisting of the female and lying-in wards has been improved both as regards ventilation and the addition of two new bath-rooms, the old bath-rooms being thrown into the veranda, increasing of course its size. The compound has been planted with trees, partially turfed, and thoroughly drained and cleaned. The President of the Municipality has taken a very active interest in effecting these reforms and improvements.

The sanitary condition of Coimbatore is very satisfactory, and there is no doubt that under municipal action the health of the people is improving. Many reforms have of late been effected by the removal of objectionable buildings, the construction of new latrines in various parts, and the cleaning of the town by the regular and constant removal of all accumulation of filth.

The Municipal Committee have been very strenuous in their efforts to improve and keep clean the town. The principal improvements on their part have been erecting new latrines, a slaughter-

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house, and a recreation ground, and the removal of chucklers' huts, &c. Great readiness is shown in carrying out any suggestions offered to them for the improvement and sanitation of the town.

The native town which covers an area of about three-fourths of a square mile is, for a native town, well laid out and intersected by many fine streets. The houses are on the whole substantial ones.

Measures have been taken to improve the purity of the supply of drinking water, and the construction of a bund to prevent the town drainage from mixing with the water used for drinking purposes.

The mortuary returns furnished by the Curnams of the different taluqs do not appear to be reliable with regard to the headings under which the cause of death is entered. For instance, nearly half of the total number of deaths in the Coimbatore District is entered under the head of "Fever," and in some of the taluqs the fever cases are put down at two-thirds of the total number of deaths. The proportion is altogether improbable.

First-class Hospital Assistant M. Veerasamy, No. 176, is sober and zealous. His attainments are very good. He is a good practical man, and is much appreciated, not only by the patients in hospital, but by the more respectable portion of the native community.

COIMBATORE,
1st January 1873.

(Signed) C. J. ROGERS, Surgeon-Major,
Civil Surgeon.

Concise Report on the Civil Dispensary of Coimbatore for the Official year ending 31st March 1873.

The official year ending 31st March 1873 has not on the whole been a favourable one to general health. Small-pox and fever have been very prevalent, the former in an epidemic form since February 1873 in the town of Coimbatore.

The rains set in late and continued heavy beyond the usual period, proving injurious to crops, and resulting in dearth of provisions.

No cholera has been reported either in Coimbatore or the district generally.

After small-pox and fevers, admissions under the heads "Ulcers," "Diarrhoea," "Conjunctivitis," "Rheumatism," and "Venereal Diseases" have been most frequent. Ulcers occurring in weak debilitated subjects proved fatal in four instances, and there were several severe cases of venereal diseases.

The casualties during past official year have been from amongst the in-patients seventeen and out-patients one. Of the former many were brought to the dispensary in a moribund condition, and many others in almost the last stage of existence.

(Signed) C. J. ROGERS, Surgeon-Major,
Civil Surgeon.

Statement showing the Receipts and Disbursements of the Civil Dispensary, Coimbatore, during the year 1872.

COIMBATORE,
25th January 1873.

Secretary.

With his letter above recorded, the President of the Coimbatore Municipality submits the annual report for the year 1872-73. The following table shows the receipts and expenditure compared with the estimates :—

2. The principal increase over the estimates is found in the items "Balance brought forward," "Endowments," "Rates on houses," and "Miscellaneous." Under the first two heads it results from the transfer of endowed institutions, and under "House-tax" a large portion of it appears to be due to arrear collections. Under "Miscellaneous" a sum of Rupees 3,392 was realized by sale of land, which probably was not anticipated when the estimates were framed.

3. On the expenditure side, the outlay on Public Works was Rupees 14,925 against an estimate of Rupees 8,180, but the mode in which the excess was employed is satisfactorily explained in the report. As on the receipt side, the transfer of the dispensary and other institutions to the Municipality necessarily led to a consi-

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derable increase in the actuals over the estimates under the head "Sanitary and Miscellaneous." The reasons on account of which increased salaries and additional staff under "Conservancy" were deemed necessary, and whether the result had been satisfactory or not, should have been mentioned in the report.

	RS.	
House-tax	607	President gives the marginally-noted
Tax on vehicles	126	items of increase from taxation without
Tolls	200	any increase in the rates. These figures
Total	933	have been taken from the total collec-
		tions including arrears, but when the

object is to show the elasticity of revenue a more correct result may be obtained as follows:—

	RS.	RS.
Current house-tax collected in 1871-72	5,424	
Arrears of 1871-72 realized in 1872-73	942	
		6,366
Current house-tax collected in 1872-73	6,851	
Arrears to be realized	361	
		7,212
Increase		846

5. The increase under "House-tax" may thus be put down at Rupees 846, subject to correction within a limit of Rupees 361 in the event of some of the arrears being irrecoverable. The increase under "Tolls" obtained in the same way is Rupees 983, but in the case of the other taxes Statement IV. does not contain the information necessary for a comparison. The above remarks are made to indicate the approved method of framing the comparative estimate of the produce of the several taxes, but inasmuch as the return for the official year 1871-72 included only eleven months, the result above shown is not accurate for purposes of comparison.

6. Statement I.A is obviously incorrect. In preparing a revised statement for submission, the President will bear in mind that it cannot be correct unless the entry in Column 9 tallies with the entry of the corresponding charges in Statement II., and that if the entry in Column 11 exceeds that in Column 8, the municipal contribution will ordinarily be represented by the difference shown as a minus balance in Column 12. From paragraph 7 of the report, however, it appears that the Lungerkhana balance was expended on the dispensary, in which case the minus entry in Column 12 will represent the sum of the municipal contribution and the appropriation from the Lungerkhana Fund. The President should explain the circumstances under which such an appropriation is considered permissible.

7. The report on the working of the dispensary is very satisfactory, and the Government trust that funds will be procurable for the proposed additional improvements, especially the substitution of a new lying-in ward for the one now in use, security against risk of contagion from the other diseases prevalent in a hospital being the most primary essential for the success of a ward of the kind. If there is

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not a separate deadhouse for *post-mortem* examinations in criminal or suspicious cases, the District Magistrate should apply to Government to provide one.

(True Extract.)

Stunvoll
Ag Under Secy
for Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Coimbatore.
" Public Works Department.
" Revenue Department.
" Board of Revenue.
" Accountant-General.
" Sanitary Commissioner.
" Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" President of the Local Fund Board, Coimbatore.

Ed. J. Wright.

5 Minutes
Sent to Indian Office

Recd 1873 Sept 11

Obt. of 1873 *Sept 11*

FINANCIAL.

To
THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Cebu, P. I.

Dated August, 25th.

Recd. *Sept 5* 1873

G. O., 25th August 1873, No. 1203.

AUGUST.
Nos. 172-173.

Cebu Municipality.—The annual report of this Municipality for the year 1872-73, reviewed.

N. 35.

Recd 1873 Sept 11