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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

1581

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Dated 29.7.1875 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Municipal Reports.

No. 243. Read the following letter from W. S. FOSTER, Esq., President of the Municipal Commissions, Godavery District, to the Honorable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Cocanada, 13th May 1875, No. 14:—

I have the honor to forward the annual report on the working of the Municipal Act III. of 1871, in the town of Rajahmundry, for the year 1874-75, together with statements, &c., as received from the Vice-President.

From J. KELSALL, Esq., Vice-President of the Municipal Commission, Rajahmundry, to W. S. FOSTER, Esq., President of the Municipal Commissions, Godavery District, dated Rajahmundry, 24th April 1875, No. 9.

I have the honor to forward the annual report on the Rajahmundry Municipality for the year 1874-75. The statements appended show the estimated and actual receipts and expenditure.

2. *RECEIPTS.*—The estimated balance was Rupees 112, but from the Pass-book of the Savings Bank it appears that the amount over the Rupees 2,500 of funded capital was Rupees 101-4-2.

3. *Rates and Taxes.*—The actual receipts from rates and taxes correspond almost exactly with the estimates. Though the tax on Arts and Professions was not in force during the year, a sum of Rupees 1,122 arrears of past years was collected and brought to account. Of the demand for the current year Rupees 163-5-5 has yet to be collected.

4. *Hospitals.*—The estimated receipts were Rupees 1,010 from subscriptions, and Rs. 184 the interest of the funded capital. The subscriptions have risen to Rupees 1,056-10-0, and Rupees 135 has been received as interest on the bond for Rupees 1,000, as the interest had not been drawn for over three years. In my letter, No. 115, I requested that the interest on Rupees 2,500 in the Savings Bank might also be drawn and sent, but it has not yet been received. The rest of the so-called funded capital (Rupees 709) is in the Taluq Treasury, and bears no interest. This I have already (letter, No. 94, of the 4th February 1875) brought to your notice, and I shall return to it again. With two honorable exceptions, the subscriptions to the Civil Dispensary are confined to the European Officers of Rajahmundry and Dowlaishweram.

5. *Contribution from Local Funds.*—The receipts have been augmented by a further grant of Rupees 1,660, being two-thirds of the cost of some repairs and improvements, and Rupees 323-9-11 arrears unpaid last year.

6. *Miscellaneous.*—I cannot explain why it was supposed Rupees 200 would accrue from the renting of markets, because there are none to rent. It seems probable that the gentlemen who prepared the Budget intended to build a market, and therefore included the rent it might be supposed to bring. The system under which so large a sum for "Private Scavenging" is raised has often been explained before. The onion garden has not been sold under the circumstances explained in my letter, No. 91, of the 6th February 1875. It was taken from the owner against his will, and now that the Commission does not want it, it should be restored to him, and the purchase money refunded.

7. *Advances Recovered.*—Rupees 300 was recovered from various people to whom it had been advanced (Rupees 200 last year and Rupees 100 this year) for building private latrines. The other items are for registered letters to taxpayers, cost of repairs, &c., to the office, recovered from the defaulters and the landlord.

8. *EXPENDITURE.*—In the original Budget Rupees 1,000 was provided for Communications, and Rupees 350 for Miscellaneous Works, but no definite appropriation was made. In the Supple-

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mental Budget (G.O., 14th December 1874, No. 2086) the following additional appropriations were sanctioned:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Morris' Choultry	1,500	0	0
Travellers' Bungalow	169	8	4
Civil Dispensary	563	7	8
Total	2,233	0	0

On looking through the accounts, however, I found that Rupees 1,000 of the cost of the choultry was paid last year out of savings, and there remained 500 Rupees to pay. But as a little more had been spent on addition not provided for in the estimate, what was actually spent was Rs. 550. The sum for the travellers' bungalow was one-third of the estimated cost, and the Commissioners were wanting for the other two-thirds to be sent by the Local Fund Board. That Board has, however, declined to contribute, and therefore the Municipal Commission will themselves do what is needed this year. Similarly, the sum in the Budget for the Dispensary is only one-third of the estimated cost. That sum has been spent on emergent repairs, but two-thirds contributed by the Local Fund Board (Rupees 1,660) was received only on the 12th March, too late to be utilized in the year. The actual expenditure for public works, of which details are given in the annexed statement, is—

	RS.	A.	P.
New Works	1,477	1	5
Repairs	1,146	0	0
Miscellaneous	424	10	1
Total	3,047	11	6

9. *Education*.—We give a salary grant of Rupees 15 a-month to a school in Madanasin-gupetta, and results grants to four schools. The contribution to the Local Fund for inspection was settled at Rupees 20 in G.O., dated 19th December 1874, No. 2132.

10. *Sanitation*.—The increase under vaccination is because the vaccinator was kept on for the whole year instead of six months. He has vaccinated 915 persons. The Rupees 16 contingencies is "batta" to children operated on.

11. *Conservancy*.—Rupees 191 were spent in purchasing dust-carts for the removal of rubbish.

12. *General Purposes—Lighting*.—This is the best-worked branch of the Municipality and gives general satisfaction, and we hope to increase our lights this year. The oil was procured for half the price estimated, but it was necessary to increase the number of lamplighters. The increase under the head of Office Contingencies is caused by purchase of stationery and printed forms.

13. The general balance on 31st March 1875 was therefore—

	RS.	A.	P.
Receipts	19,309	6	10
Charges	14,766	12	5
Balance	4,542	10	5

which is the sum available for expenditure in the coming year. But to this sum must be added Rupees 1,183-5-6 as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Hospital Endowment	708	12	2
Toil deposit	451	4	0
Cart	23	5	4
Total	1,183	5	6

The total balance standing at credit of the Municipality is therefore Rupees 5,725-15-11, as per enclosed certificate.

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14. The Government will naturally desire to know why we have so large a balance. Rs. 1,660 of it was received from the Local Fund Board only ten days before the end of the year, too late to be utilized; and this too is the chief reason why the rest was not spent in the current year. When I took charge in January, collections were very much in arrears, and there was hardly any balance at all. I put a great deal of pressure on and succeeded in bringing in the arrears, but owing to the formalities that have to be gone through we did not get the money till the end of February or early in March. Of the sum of Rupees 3,047 which has been spent on public works, Rupees 1,700-9-0 have been spent in the last three months since I became Vice-President, and I think I may claim to have done the best that could be done to push on work and utilize our money.

15. I have prepared, for the consideration of the next meeting, a Supplemental Budget for the expenditure of this large balance, and the extra sums we expect to raise by the reintroduction of the Profession-tax, and the raising of the toll-rates.

16. The number of Commissioners is fourteen, of whom seven are non-officials. There have been twenty meetings in the course of the year. One thousand three hundred and thirty-three petitions have been received and disposed of. I think it right to record the great assistance which S. Gopalkrishnamah Garu, a Vakeel of the Civil Court and an unofficial member, has rendered to the town by his services. He is much interested in the matter, has devoted to it a great deal of time, and has superintended the carrying out of most of the public works.

17. The annual report on the Dispensary is enclosed, as directed in G.O., dated 5th October 1874, No. 1686. The funded capital is—

	RS.	A.	P.
In Savings Bank	2,500	0	0
With Deputy Collector (a promissory note)	1,000	0	0
In Taluq Treasury	708	12	2
Total	4,208	12	2

18. In my letter, No. 94, of the 4th February 1875, I communicated to you the views of the Commissioners on the subject, and I have the honor to request a reply, as the money now in the Treasury should be invested.

From P. ATCHAYYA, Auditor of the Municipal Accounts, Rajahmundry, to J. KELSALL, Esq., Vice-President of the Municipal Commission, Rajahmundry, dated Rajahmundry, 21st April 1875.

I beg to inform your honor that I have audited the accounts of the Rajahmundry Municipality for the year 1874-75, and to state that all receipts are properly credited in the accounts and all disbursements supported by vouchers.

Annual Medical Report of the Rajahmundry Civil Dispensary for the Year 1874-75.

The institution has been much resorted to. I have only to refer to the returns which show the number of out-patients treated during the year, viz., 4,129, being an increase of 247 over the past year, and of in-patients 238 showing a small increase of nine. There appears to be every confidence placed by all classes in European treatment, who in every case of severe injury, wound, fracture, &c., instantly resort to this charity, and some from considerable distances.

2. I regret to state that vaccination is not very favorably viewed by the inhabitants, the higher and well-to-do classes of the native community object to the operation on the ground of caste prejudice; and many of the lower classes close the doors against the vaccinator, and stoutly refuse bringing their children forward, notwithstanding the batta offered to them. I have on two or three occasions accompanied the vaccinator, and I could scarcely procure half-a-dozen children in the villages for vaccination; nothing short of compulsory vaccination is urgently needed here, particularly in a station where small-pox have been known to prevail some years past to an alarming extent. Nine hundred and eight cases has been vaccinated during the past year; 688 were

successful, 130 unsuccessful, and ninety unknown. The batta distributed during the year amounts to Rupees 16-5-0.

3. The sanitation of the town is not altogether what it should be; natives have yet to learn what cleanliness and sanitation really means.

4. The funds of the Municipality are much crippled, they have consequently reduced the Conservancy Establishment for the year 1875-76, which I fear will be found to be insufficient to carry out effectually the conservancy of the town, and latrines. The reintroduction of the Professional tax having met the sanction of Government, I hope shortly to move the Municipality for an increase in the establishment.

The Conservancy Establishment will be increased this year.—J. K.

5. There are nine latrines on the dry-earth system; four of these are puckah, similar in construction to those in Coimbatore, and the remaining five are built with cadjan leaves, and ill-adapted for the purpose. The latrines are well-attended to by scavengers supervised by maistries and a Brahmin Sanitary Inspector. Notwithstanding the cleanliness and supervision the majority of natives will not resort to it; they prefer the topes, gardens, thoroughfares, and along the banks of the Godavery river. The Police might to some extent prevent this nuisance.

6. The sewage water is removed daily from the town in an iron cistern, very defective in construction; much of the sewage splashes out on the public roads emitting a very disagreeable odour. Several of the cesspits in the main roads have been closed. The number of dust-bins are insufficient. Sanction has been given for eight more to be constructed in the town.

7. The hot season during the past year was rather trying; the thermometer in the shade stood as high as 105°. The rainfall less, about 27½ inches, much below the average. Notwithstanding the partial failure of the monsoons and the export of grain provisions have been cheap and abundant.

8. The prevailing diseases treated during the past year were fevers 447, diseases of the stomach and bowels 1,366, rheumatism 116, venereal affections 31, affections of the eyes 376, ears 292, lungs 131, abscess and ulcers 283, itch 358, &c.

9. The entire district has been free from epidemic. No cholera or small-pox made its appearance, and the public health has been good. Fevers which were so prevalent in several places in an epidemic form during past years, immediately after the cessation of the rains, have not shown itself to any considerable extent, and the usual demands for fever-medicines have been almost forgotten by the village authorities.

10. The principal diseases amongst the in-patients were rheumatism twenty, venereal affections seventeen, ulcers nineteen, general debility twenty-three, wounds and injuries sixty-eight; a greater portion of these were wretchedly poor. Most of the cases of wounds were of a severe character, sent in by the Police. All the cases of wounds have healed very kindly under treatment, except two young lads, who were gored by a bullock, brought to the dispensary a day or two after the accident, in a collapsed state with protrusion of the bowels; the bowels were returned, and the wounds closed. Opium and stimulants were administered without any good effect. They died shortly after admission.

11. The deaths during the period under review (sixteen) have not been quite so numerous as last year. Many of these occurred in persons in the very last stage of disease and destitution, being frequently found lying about the roads and brought in by the Police. This of course makes the mortality appear higher than it otherwise would be, but though clearly beyond remedial aid, it is impossible to refuse refuge to dying creatures. Six in-patients supported themselves whilst under treatment in hospital. The deaths were from the following causes:—Compression of brain one, anæmia three, general debility five, diarrhoea three, wounds two, fracture of skull one, and burn one.

12. Suicides by drowning were very frequent in this district; many of the wells are unprotected. During the past year there were forty-four dead bodies brought to the dispensary for post-mortem examinations. Several of these were very far advanced in decomposition with myriads

of maggots crawling over them, polluting the atmosphere and the wards of the hospital that no post mortem examination could possibly be conducted under any circumstances; and very frequently the out-door patients had to leave the dispensary owing to the stench; others again were partially decomposed that the examination had to be conducted in the open, owing to the defective state of the present deadhouse, want of proper ventilation and accommodation. It is hoped that a new deadhouse will shortly be erected at some distance from the hospital.

Funds have been provided for the construction of a dead-house this year.—J. K.

13. Several surgical operations were performed during the year. ***

14. The dispensary is under the supervision of the Municipality. The Deputy Surgeon-General on his last tour of inspection suggested the introduction of the diet scale as that laid down in the Code of Medical Regulations in lieu of the one in use. It has met the sanction of the Municipal Commissioners, and will be brought into effect from the ensuing official year. A supply of bedding and clothing have also been sanctioned.

15. The dispensary has been thoroughly repaired and limewashed, and the compound fenced, giving it a tidy appearance.

16. The finances of the dispensary is in a satisfactory state. The subscriptions collected from Europeans and Natives, and the dieting of Magisterial paupers, meets the demands of dieting, perishable articles, and servants' wages.

The other expenses, such as repairs, medical stores, and the pay of the Hospital Assistant and Peon, are defrayed by the Municipality.

RAJAHMUNDRY,
1st April 1875.

(Signed) H. HITCHCOCK,
Civil Surgeon.

No. 244. ORDER THEREON, 28th June 1875, No. 1366.

The receipts and expenditure of the Rajahmundry Municipality in 1874-75 are compared below with the estimates for that year:—

RECEIPTS.			CHARGES.		
	Estimate.	Actuals.		Estimate.	Actuals.
	RS.	RS.		RS.	RS.
Balance brought forward	2,612	2,202	Grant I.		
Assignment by Government	100	134	New Works—		
Rate on Houses, &c.	4,406	4,795	Communications...		
Tax on Arts, &c.		1,122	Sanitary and Miscel-		
Tax on Vehicles	550	494	laneous	1,500	1,477
Registration of Carts	125	135	Repairs—		
Tolls	2,000	2,275	Communications...	1,350	1,146
Fees	550	450	Sanitary and Miscel-		
Fines	200	146	laneous	733	425
Endowments, &c.	1,194	1,192	Establishment		90
Contributions from Local			Grant II.—		
Funds	1,190	3,174	Salary Grants		180
Miscellaneous	3,165	2,876	Results Grants	530	207
Advances recovered		315	Contribution for Inspec-		20
			tion		
			Grant III.—		
			Hospitals and Dispensa-		
			ries	2,696	2,382
			Vaccination	60	137
			Conservancy	5,942	6,069
			Grant IV.—		
			Lighting	1,896	1,129
			Other Purposes	300	194
			Grant V.—		
			Office	941	1,060
			Miscellaneous	144	144
			Advances recoverable		108
			Balance		4,542
Total	16,092	19,310	Total	16,092	19,310

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2. It is observed that the opening balance is given at Rupees 2,202, while in the accounts of 1873-74 the closing balance was shown as noted below:—

	Rs.
Municipal Fund	2,202
Endowment Fund	709
Total ...	2,911

The omission of the latter item is incorrect. If it was intended to invest the amount in the Savings Bank, or otherwise, the proper course was to bring it forward in the accounts of 1874-75 as opening balance and show it as a charge in Statement II. under Grant III. It seems, however, to have been originally part of the funded capital, but to have been separated from it in 1873-74 in view to its appropriation for some purpose and kept in the Taluq Treasury. The remarks of Government in paragraph 3 of their Order, dated 16th December 1874, No. 2113, appear to have escaped attention, and the Vice-President's remark in paragraph 2 of his letter is not understood.

The proposals contained in the communication to which the Vice-President alludes in the concluding paragraph of his letter should be reported.

3. The receipts for the year amounted to Rupees 17,108 against an estimate of Rupees 13,480, the increase being due chiefly to the collections made on account of arrears of Profession-tax and to the large contributions from Local and for carrying out certain repairs to the Hospital and Civil Dispensary. The collections were satisfactory, only Rupees 168 being left uncollected at the close of the year. The President will explain the slight difference in the collections of arrears of House-tax as shown in Statements I. and IV.

4. The expenditure for the year amounted to Rupees 14,768, or Rupees 1,324 short of the estimate. The short expenditure and the large balance of Rupees 4,542 on hand at the close of the year are explained by the Vice-President as being due to the contribution from Local Funds having been received only ten days before the close of the year, and to a considerable amount of taxes having been realized too late to allow of its utilization within the year.

5. The large balance on hand, together with the reimposition of the Profession-tax and the enhancement of tolls, sanctioned in G.O., 15th February 1875, No. 333, will place larger funds at the disposal of the Commissioners during the current year than were estimated in their Budget sanctioned in G.O., No. 503, 4th March 1875, and the President will submit without delay the supplemental proposals for utilizing them which were therein called for. The Government desire that in making his proposals the President will keep prominently in view the sanitary wants of the town.

6. The expenditure on Public Works, Conservancy, and Lighting was less than that incurred in 1873-74. The decrease in the first two items is ascribed to inadequacy of funds, and in the last, to oil having been purchased at only half the estimated cost.

7. The Dispensary appears to have worked satisfactorily, the number of out-patients having increased from 3,962 to 4,129 and in-patients from 229 to 238. Vaccination is reported to be attended with considerable difficulties in the town, the payment of batta being found to offer no inducement to people to subject their

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children to the operation. The number vaccinated is, however, said to have been 915; the Civil Surgeon gives it at 908, and the successful cases at only 688.

8. No expenditure was incurred on account of the registration of births and deaths, and no allusion is made to the subject in the report. The President will supply the omission.

9. A striking feature in the papers now submitted to Government is the inadequacy of the expenditure on education, and the brevity of the Vice-President's remarks on this subject. A full report should be submitted by the President showing the nature and extent of the school accommodation within the Rajahmundry Municipality, and the opportunities enjoyed by the population for securing the education of their children.

10. The Auditor's report is too brief to be of much practical use. The Government attach importance to the selection of Auditors capable not only of satisfactorily examining the accounts, but of making useful suggestions for their proper keeping. The statements contain no entry of any fee paid to the Auditor. It would be good economy to incur some charge for an effective audit by a competent person.

11. The Government are gratified to learn that the Commissioner S. Gopal-krishnamma Garu takes so active and useful a part in the municipal administration of the town.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Officiating Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Rajahmundry.
 „ 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 Boards, Godavery District.

Exd. J. Wright.

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Obol. of 1875 *Madras.*

FINANCIAL.

To
THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Rajahmundry.

Dated June, 28th.

Issued *1875*

Recd. *17th*

G.O., 28th June 1875, No. 1366.

JUNE.
Nos. 243-244.

Municipal Reports.—The annual report on
the working of the Rajahmundry Municipality
during 1874-75, reviewed.

29th July 1875
1875
1587
1587