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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
2nd February 1875.*

Municipal—Reports.

No. 18. Read the following letter from A. MacGREGOR, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Cochin, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Calicut, 11th January 1875, No. 20:—

* I have the honor to forward the accompanying report and statements, received from the Vice-President of the Cochin Municipality, on the working of the Towns Improvement Act in Cochin during the year 1873-74.

2. The total amount collected during the year from all sources excepting Tolls was Rupees 13,247-4-2. The opening balance of the year has raised this total to Rupees 16,454-12-2. The expenditure was Rupees 15,158-9-0, leaving an unexpended balance of Rupees 1,296-3-2 at the close of the year.

3. It will be seen from the Demand, Balance and Collection Statement that the outstanding balance of the year was small, and almost all of this appears to have been collected during the current year.

4. *Grant I.*—The total expenditure under this head was Rupees 2,596-1-6, of which Rupees 438-13-6 were for New Works, and Rupees 2,156-4-0 were for Repairs. No new works of great importance were carried out during the year. The amount was spent in constructing markets, drains, latrines, dust-boxes, &c. The principal roads were also repaired and maintained in good order.

5. *Grant II.*—During the year under review the Commissioners established a Middle-class School. The charges for a period of nine months during which the school was in existence were Rupees 2,196-11-0, while the fees collected for the same period amounted to Rupees 874-2-0; thus more than one-third of the whole cost was met by fees.

6. Sometime ago the Commissioners, on the representation of the rate-payers, proposed to raise the standard of the school; but the Inspector of Schools, to whom the question was referred, was much opposed to the proposal. Looking at the views held by Government on the subject of the establishment of Higher-class Schools by Municipalities, I have not been able to support the proposal. The establishment of even the existing Middle-class School was only sanctioned on special grounds which would not justify the elevation of the standard to that of a High-class School.

7. *Grant III.*—The Commissioners are in charge of the Civil Dispensary. Its receipts during the year from all sources was Rupees 2,484-7-11. The expenditure was Rupees 3,695-15-4, leaving a deficit balance of Rupees 1,211-7-5 to be met from Municipal Funds. Reports and statements from the Civil Surgeon are enclosed. The number of patients treated in the hospital was 8,090, of which 508 were in, and 7,583 out patients.

8. *Vaccination.*—Small-pox prevailed very severely in an epidemic form during the year under review and caused 166 deaths. Temporary vaccinators were at once entertained to arrest the progress of the disease; 1,261 cases were successfully vaccinated. The total cost for Vaccine Establishment amounted to Rupees 202.

9. *Registration.*—This department was maintained at a cost of Rupees 120. The casualties registered were births 317, and deaths 415.

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10. *Conservancy.*—Under this head Rupees 1,750 were laid out. Periodical inspections of all houses and premises were made. The town was kept very clean.
11. *Grant IV.*—Under this head Rupees 1,662-5-6 were spent. The principal items were lighting, and portion of the cost for a fire engine.
12. *Grant V.*—Under this head Rupees 1,816-14-9 were spent, including Miscellaneous Charges.

Annual Report of the Cochin Municipality for 1873-74.

The Commissioners have the honor to submit the annual report of the Cochin Municipality for the year 1873-74, together with all the statements relating to receipts and disbursements usually accompanying such a document.

RECEIPTS.—The total of net collections during the period under notice was Rupees 13,247-4-2, showing an increase over the receipts of the preceding twelve months of Rupees 2,127-11-1.

The receipts of 1873-74 may be divided as follows:—

Assignments and Allotments by Government.—From the Vypeen Ferry-farm, which has been assigned over by the Government to this Municipality, the revenue was Rupees 1,105. The farm is sold annually by auction, but there was not the same inclination to bid for it in the year under notice at the high price formerly paid, and the amount realized thus fell short by Rupees 270 520 was received and credited by this Municipality on account of the Civil Dispensary; and a further sum of Rupees 500 was received from the Port Funds, which is also a contribution towards the support of the same institution.

These two amounts were due to 1872-73, but their adjustment was made only at the close of the year under notice.

Rates on Houses, Buildings, and Lands.—The total collection of rates on houses, buildings, and lands amounted to Rupees 4,596-14-2. Of this, Rupees 40-3-5 were remitted on account of vacancies, leaving a balance of Rupees 4,556-10-9 as the net revenue of the Municipality under this head. Rupees 17-8-0 were the only arrears of the preceding year. At the close of 1873-74 the arrears left uncollected* were very small, and have been with some trifling exceptions recovered during the current year. The collection for the year, it is necessary to state, exceeded the Budget amount by Rupees 339-2-9.

* Rupees 200-9-7.

Tax on Arts, Professions, and Trades.—The amount collected in the year under notice under this head was Rupees 2,741-8-0, which includes the arrears† of the previous year. Comparing the sum with the collection of 1872-73, we find that there was no appreciable decline in this revenue; but in the current year it has been reduced by the exemption from the tax of persons falling within the sixth, seventh, and eighth classes of Schedule B of the Act.

In the year 1873-74 the incidence of the Profession-tax was Annas 3 and Pies 2½ per head of the population. The tax has been hitherto recovered with facility; the community pay it without any discontent being evinced, and the Commissioners hope that it will be always retained so far as this Municipality is concerned.

Tax on Carriages and Animals.—Under this head the sum of Rupees 185-4-0 was collected in the year. The Budget amount was Rupees 200; but the decrease is small and does not call for any special remark.

Registration of Carts.—The registration of carts and other vehicles without springs yielded Rupees 73-8-0. There is no regular wheeled traffic at Cochin, owing to the isolated position of the place, and all goods are brought hither by boats.

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Licensing Fees.—The sum of Rupees 220 was realized in 1873-74 by the licensing of slaughter-houses and offensive trades. There are four slaughter-houses, situated at a convenient distance from the town, over which the Municipal Inspector exercises a good supervision. It must be stated, that, since the slaughter-houses have been brought under Municipal control, the public have been supplied with better and more wholesome meat. The "offensive trades" which are carried on at Cochin are the manufacturing of fish oil to a small extent, and "leather tanning." No licenses were granted for any tannery in 1873-74, as tanning has of late been carried on outside the limits of the Municipality, but the manufacturing of fish oil was licensed, and licenses were also taken by merchants for storing fish oil in their premises. The licensing fees of the year were in excess of the previous year by Rupees 80.

Magisterial Fines.—The fines were estimated at Rupees 100, but the amount actually realized was only Rupees 63-6-0. This item does not demand any particular notice.

Fees in Schools and Training Institutions.—In the Budget for 1873-74, the total of fees from the Municipal School recently established was estimated as Rupees 500, but the actual amount realized far exceeded the expectation of the Commissioners. The entire collection was Rupees 874-2-0, which is more than one-third of the actual cost of education imparted in the Municipal School. The school, which is middle class, was opened in the latter end of June 1873, when there was an attendance of fifty-four boys; but at the close of 1873-74 the number of boys was 173. This would show on the whole a tax of 5 Rupees per head of those who received instruction at the cost of Municipality in the nine months of the year under notice, which the Commissioners think does not fall heavy on the community, considering the standard of their school and the high education imparted in it. The boys on the roll at the close of the year may be divided as follows:—

British born	3
East Indians	89
Native Christians	41
Hindoos	31
Mahomedans	4
Parsees	5

It will be observed that half of the attendance is due to the East-Indian community, showing that the school has been properly appreciated by it. The Mahomedans were only 2·31 per cent. of the aggregate number. The Mahomedan population within the limits of the Municipality being about 2,183, the above fact taken in connection with the question of educating them speaks very little in their favor in respect to any desire or earnestness on their part to receive a sound English education.

Endowments and Sundry Contributions and Donations.—In the year under consideration the income of the Dispensary was Rupees 1,452-8-2, which may be divided as follows, viz.: Subscriptions and Donations, Rupees 958-2-3; Interest on Funded Capital, Rupees 267-6-4; and Sale of Medicines, Rupees 226-15-7. The fees from the Travellers' Bungalow for the same period amounted to Rupees 262.

Miscellaneous.—Under this head are included the rent of the Calvetty fish-market, Rupees 545; and of the Town fish-market for five months, Rupees 39-8-0, and sundry other income amounting to Rupees 108-13-3.

With the balance at the close of 1872-73 the total amount at the disposal of the Commission in the year under review was Rupees 16,454-12-2. This bears favorable comparison with the result of 1872-73, at the end of which year the same item amounted only to Rupees 15,063-10-7. The incidence of the House-tax per head of the population was Annas 5 and Pies 3¼, and of the Tax on Trades and Professions Annas 3 and Pies 2½.

EXPENDITURE.—In the Budget Estimate for the year the expenditure of the Municipality was estimated at Rupees 14,220, while the actual disbursements amounted to Rupees 15,158-9-0. We shall distribute the expenditure according to the Budget heads.

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Public Works.—The Budget amount for Public Works was Rupees 3,680 for the year under review. The sum spent for New Works was Rupees 438-13-6, of which only Rupees 16-8 was expended on "Communications." No new roads were opened out with the exception of one close to the parsonage, which was commenced in 1872-73, but was left uncompleted at its close. Rupees 39-7-3 were spent in school requirements, and Rupees 383-13-7 for Sanitary and Miscellaneous works. In Repairs the sum of Rupees 2,156-4-0 was expended, of which Rupees 1,674-2-7 were laid out in repairing and improving roads, canal banks, and bridges within the limits of the Municipality; Rupees 482-1-5 for Sanitary and Miscellaneous works. While on this subject, the Commissioners would observe that every attention was paid in the year under review to sanitary works; new latrines and dust boxes were put up, and others were repaired and renewed; new drains were constructed and others repaired; a new fish-market was built and the old one repaired. The actual expenditure under Grant I. was Rupees 2,596-1-6, while the Budget provided a sum of Rupees 3,680.

Education.—Under Grant II. in the Budget for 1873-74 an assignment of Rupees 3,020 was made for Education, but the expenditure within a period of nine months, during which the school had been in existence, was Rupees 2,212-12-4. The School Establishment cost Rupees 1,833-5-0, and the balance was disbursed in Contingent expenses and Inspection charges. It has been stated that more than one-third of the cost of the maintenance of the Municipal School was met by fees. There has been a general desire on the part of the community that the curriculum of the school should be raised; and a representation of the taxpayers was forwarded to the Government, on the 9th December 1873, requesting that a Matriculation Class be established as the highest class in the school. To this representation no reply has been received by the Commissioners.

Sanitation and Medical Services.—In Sanitation and Medical Services the expenditure during the year under notice was Rupees 6,624-3-1, which exceeded the estimated amount by Rupees 2,094-3-1. Some explanation is necessary for this extraordinary increase. Nearly the whole of the budgeted sum was expended on the local dispensary, whose establishment alone cost Rupees 1,520-1-7. Then there were fresh medicines obtained, dieting of patients, raising a new wall to the dispensary, and repairs, &c., to be paid for. Again, it has been discovered that a sum of Rupees 447-13-11 was paid to Government in excess of the amount actually due on account of the dispensary for the year under review. An application has been made for the refund of this excess, on receipt of which it will be credited to the Municipal accounts. The actual expenditure against the dispensary for the year will then be reduced to Rupees 3,695-15-4. Besides the Dispensary charges, the sum of Rupees 2,480-5-10 were expended in Sanitation and Medical Services. Vaccination cost Rupees 255-14-3, while the registration of births and deaths was effected by the maintenance of an establishment costing Rupees 120, and the outlay on Conservancy was Rupees 2,104-7-7. The Commissioners have given their best attention to the question of conservancy. In the year under review a system of inspection of all houses and cesspools was instituted under Section 151 of the Towns Improvement Act. Any premises found filthy and dirty were ordered to be cleaned at once.

Miscellaneous.—The cost of lighting the streets in the year under notice was Rupees 659-10-9, Rupees 159-3-9 were spent in watering the streets, Rupees 76-5-3 for raising avenues, Rupees 500-8-0 were paid on account of the fire engine, Rupees 71 for killing dogs, and Rupees 195-9-9 on account of the travellers' bungalow. The total amount of Grant IV. allowed for the above purposes was Rupees 1,300; but the expenditure exceeded the estimate by Rupees 312-5-6, and this excess is accounted for by the fact that the Municipality had to pay a large balance for the fire engine over estimated cost.

Supervision and Management.—The cost of the Municipal Establishment for carrying out the provisions of the Act was, including all charges, Rupees 1,616-14-9. This amount is less than the budgeted sum by Rupees 73-1-3.

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Advances Recoverable.—A sum of Rupees 497-3-10 has been laid out on books for the Municipal school boys. All books required by the boys are sold to them at cost price.

The Dispensary.—Two reports* on the working of the Dispensary furnished by the Civil Surgeon are herewith forwarded. In the year 1873, under notice, another Hospital Assistant was added to the Hospital Staff because it was found that one subordinate medical officer attached to the institution was insufficient for the requirements of the place. During the period under notice the total number of patients treated in the Civil Hospital was 8,090, of which 508 were in and 7,582 out patients. The benefits conferred by the Dispensary are availed of by all classes from the surrounding villages, as well as by those within the Municipality; hence the number of patients cannot afford any comparative information as to the health of the people residing within the municipal limits. The hygienic condition and health of the town will be noticed below.

Vaccination.—Vaccine operations in the year under review were carried out on an extensive scale. There were three Vaccinators maintained by the Municipality with the view of promoting vaccination as much as possible at a time when small-pox prevailed to a fearful extent. In the latter part of the year 1872-73 small-pox appeared in an epidemic form, and strenuous endeavours were made to diffuse vaccination. When the disease showed itself there was only one Vaccinator at the disposal of the Commission. Two others were obtained in March 1873, and they rendered good service to the town. The work of these two belong to the year 1873-74. A great number of successful operations were made by them, both within the municipal limits and whenever practicable out of them. Taking the work of the Vaccine Establishment in its entirety and comparing it with the results of previous year, we find that in 1872-73 the total number of vaccinations was 1,686, of which 1,190 were successful, 270 unsuccessful, and 226 were recorded as "result unknown." But in 1873-74 the total vaccinations were 1,510, of which 1,202 were successful, 165 unsuccessful, and eighty-four are recorded as "unknown." The operations of the year were 10.91 per cent. of the population. There is no doubt in the minds of the Commissioners that the impetus given to vaccination contributed to arrest the small-pox epidemic, at least in its fatal effects. The disease was quickly reduced in virulence; and, although there were 166 deaths from small-pox recorded, it yet existed in the latter part of the year only in a sporadic form. The following will show how the epidemic gradually subsided from April 1873 to March 1874. The figures represent the number of deaths from the disease:—

April 1873	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
May	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
June	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
July	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
August	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
September	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
October	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
November	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
December	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
January 1874	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
February	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
March	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Registration of Births and Deaths.—The same attention was paid to the registration of births and deaths in the year under review, as had always been bestowed to the matter. The number of births were 317, showing a ratio to the population of 22.09 per mille. The deaths were 415, or 29.93 per mille. A close supervision is exercised over the registering establishment in order to secure accuracy in the vital statistics; and the Commissioners are satisfied that the registration for the year under notice is as complete as it can be.

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Deaths.—The number of deaths must be divided as follows, in reference to causation:—

Small-pox	166
Fever	35
Bowel-complaints	7
Suicide	0
Accidents and Wounds	4
Other Causes	203

There was a decrease in the year of 1874 in the number of deaths, under the result of the previous year. The small-pox deaths show a ratio of 11.99 per mill. of the population. The mortality in 1872-73 from the epidemic was 296; the number of deaths at Cochin from small-pox since its outbreak may then be said to have been in round numbers 460.

The Health of the Town.—It will be evident from the foregoing observations that the health of the town was not at all satisfactory in the year under report. Small-pox prevailed epidemically since 1872, its influence having been the more felt amongst the Moplah community residing at Calvetty. In 1873-74, .096 per cent. of the Mussulman population died of the disease, the number of deaths amongst them having been twenty-one. Apart from the Moplah community, the Native Christians were the chief sufferers from this disease. There was no death from small-pox within the Fort, where all hygienic conditions are observed. Vaccination was also generally resorted to as a prophylactic by the European and East-Indian communities living in the Fort; and cleanliness likewise contributed to their total exemption from small-pox. In 1873-74 no case of cholera occurred at Cochin. We have been fortunate enough to enjoy immunity from this disease for nearly a decade of years. There were thirty-five deaths from fever in the year under review. It is noteworthy that no fever epidemic has prevailed on this coast for many years.

Conservancy.—The appointment of a Nuisance Inspector and the increase of the means to prevent nuisance enabled the Commissioners to attend to the conservancy of the place with better results than had been hitherto obtained. The town is now kept fairly clean, and periodical inspections of all houses and premises are made. Dust-carts are constantly employed; and all filth and rubbish thrown out are immediately carted away. The drains are always kept open. A better system of drainage and the closing of the existing cesspools are undoubtedly desirable; but the present means of the Municipality will not permit the Commissioners to carry out such works at once.

Auditor's Report.—The report on the auditing of the Municipal accounts for 1873-74 is herewith transmitted in original.

COCHIN,
23rd December 1874.

(Signed) M. A. PLATEL, Commissioner,
for Vice-President.

From the Auditor of the Municipal Accounts, Cochin, to the Vice-President of the Municipal Commission, Cochin, dated Cochin, 11th December 1874.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting report of the accounts of the Cochin Municipality for the official year 1873-74.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
2nd February 1875.

No. 19. ORDER THEREON, 2nd February 1875, No. 202.

The receipts and expenditure of the Cochin Municipality for 1873-74 are compared below with the estimate for that year:—

RECEIPTS.			CHARGES.		
	Estimate.	Actuals.		Estimate.	Actuals.
Balance brought forward—	Rs.	Rs.	Grant I.	Rs.	Rs.
Municipal Fund	3,360	3,207	New Works—		
Assignment by Government			Communications		16
Provincial Services		520	Educational	1,600	39
Port Fund	1,700	500	Sanitary and Miscella- neous		384
Vypeen Ferry-rent		1,105	Repairs—		
Rate on Houses, &c.	4,200	4,557	Communications		1,674
Tax on Arts, &c.	2,800	2,742	Sanitary and Miscella- neous	2,080	482
Tax on Carriages	200	186	Grant II.—		
Registration of Carts	100	74	Municipal Schools	2,920	2,213
Fees	120	220	Inspection	100	
Fines	100	63	Grant III.—		
Endowments, &c.	2,160	1,714	Hospitals	2,000	4,144
Miscellaneous	1,030	1,567	Vaccination	140	256
			Registration of Births, &c.	140	120
			Conservancy	2,250	2,105
			Grant IV.—		
			Lighting	750	660
			Other Purposes	550	952
			Grant V.—		
			Office	1,490	1,458
			Miscellaneous	200	159
			Advances		497
			Balance	4,550	1,296
Total	18,770	16,455	Total	18,770	16,455

2. As pointed out in the Order reviewing the Budget, the funded capital of the Dispensary need not appear in Statements I. and II. Explanation should have been given of the difference between the opening balance as given in the statements now submitted and the closing balance of the preceding year shown in G.O., dated 7th April 1874, No. 552. There should have been an entry in Statement I. to correspond with the floating balance of the Dispensary shown in Statement I.-A. As the refunds of arrear House-tax shown in Statement II. are deducted from the total expenditure it is presumed that the money thus refunded has not been shown at all on the receipt side.

3. The receipts of the year exclusive of the opening balance amounted to Rupees 13,248 against an estimate of Rupees 12,410. The small uncollected balance shown in Statement IV. is satisfactory.

4. The expenditure of the year was Rupees 15,159 or Rupees 939 in excess of the estimate, the principal increase being in connection with the Dispensary. The outlay on New Works was only Rupees 439, and that on Repairs Rupees 2,156,

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of which Rupees 1,674 went towards Communications, but at the same time it appears from the report that every attention was paid to Sanitary works, "new latrines and dust-boxes were put up, and others were repaired and renewed; new drains were constructed and others repaired, a new fish-market was built and the old one repaired."

5. The expenditure on Education was Rupees 2,213, being an increase of Rupees 2,022 over the preceding year, and in connection with the Middle-class School, which was sanctioned as a special case for this Municipality, it is satisfactory to observe that at the close of the year the attendance was as high as 173, while one-third of the cost of the maintenance of the school was raised by means of fees. The Government consider, however, that it should eventually be practicable to raise a still larger proportion of the charges in that manner. Though the attendance at the Dispensary fell from 9,661 to 8,230, the institution appears to have worked satisfactorily and to have been thoroughly appreciated by the people. The prevalence of small-pox in an epidemic form led to much attention being paid to vaccination as in the preceding year with the result that 1,510 operations were performed at an average cost of Rupee 0-2-8. The registered deaths were much in excess of the births, but the Commissioners were satisfied with the completeness of the registration, and the excess is doubtless attributable to the fact that the deaths from small-pox alone were as many as 166.

6. Conservancy as usual was well attended to, and the report shows that the general working of the Act was very satisfactory throughout the year.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Cochin.

- .. 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, Malabar District.

Exd. J. Wright.

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N^o 570
Revenue Department
Govt. of 1875 Madras.

FINANCIAL.

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

5000
Dated February, 2nd.

Recd. — 16.

G.O., 2nd February 1875, No. 202.

FEBRUARY.
Nos. 18-19.

Cochin Municipality.—The annual report of this
Municipality for 1873-74 reviewed.

N^o 324
LODGED
18: Feb/75
Yell