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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / ~~B.P. No.~~	1409	Press / ~~Mis.~~
Dated 17.6.1876		196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1409/1

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
27th May 1876.

Municipal—Report.

No. 241. Read the following letter from H. SEWELL, Esq., President of the Municipal Commissions, Trichinopoly, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Srirangam, 26th February 1876, No. 27:—

I have the honor to report on the working of the Towns Improvement Act in the town of Srirangam during the year 1874-75. The delay has been caused mainly by the sickness of the Vice-President.

2. The annexed abstract statements exhibit in one view the receipts and charges of the Municipality under each separate head, as compared with the Budget Estimates of the year under report and the actuals of the preceding two years 1872-73 and 1873-74, the Act having been for the first time introduced here only on the 1st of November 1871:—

Items.	Receipts of 1874-75 as compared with the Budget Estimates.				Receipts of 1874-75 as compared with those of 1872-73 and 1873-74.						
	Budget Estimate.	Actuals.	Difference.		1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.	Difference between Columns 6 and 8.		Difference between Columns 7 and 8.	
			Increase.	Decrease.				Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Balance brought forward	500	862	362	...	613	3,537	862	249	...	...	2,675
2. Assignment by Government ...	600	237	...	363	...	474	237	237	...	...	237
3. Rates on Houses, &c.	8,200	5,660	...	2,54[illegible]	5,998	5,684	5,660	...	338	...	24
4. Tax on Arts, &c.	890	1,273	473	...	779	2,683	1,273	494	...	...	1,410
5. Tax on Vehicles and Animals ...	400	662	262	...	...	495	662	662	...	167	...
6. Registration of Carts	300	351	51	...	...	297	351	351	...	54	...
7. Fees	350	476	126	...	421	470	476	55	..	6	...
8. Fines	150	216	66	...	180	282	216	36	...	...	66
9. Contribution from Local Funds ...	3,600	3,433	...	167	375	4,448	3,433	3,058	...	..	1,015
10. Do. from Private Individuals	1,200	3,766	2,566	...	575	1,888	3,766	3,191	...	1,878	...
11. Miscellaneous Receipts...	75	75	...	...	24	68	75	51	...	7	...
Total ...	16,175	17,011	3,906	3,070	8,965	20,326	17,011	8,384	338	2,112	5,427
	Net increase.		836		Net increase.			8,046	Net decrease.		3,315

Items.	Charges of 1874-75 as compared with the Budget Estimates.				Charges of 1874-75 as compared with those of 1872-73 and 1873-74.						
	Budget Estimate.	Actuals.	Difference.		1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.	Difference between Columns 6 and 8.		Difference between Columns 7 and 8.	
			Increase	Decrease.				Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Grant I.											
New Works.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Communications	500	343	...	157	..	537	343	343	...	...	194
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	1,349	3,480	2,131	...	445	8,580	3,480	3,035	...	...	5,100
Repairs.											
Communications	1,610	1,112	...	498	392	423	1,113	720	...	689	...
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	...	2	2	...	...	...	2	2	...	2	...
Establishment	120	120	...	...	531	311	120	...	411	...	191
Tools	...	14	14	...	...	...	14	14	...	14	...
Grant II.											
Municipal Schools	...	30	30	...	...	...	30	30	...	30	...
Salary Grants	..	...	...	...	142	159	...	...	142	...	159
Result Grants	350	220	...	130	123	117	220	98	...	103	...
Other Items	...	50	50	...	...	70	50	50	...	...	20
Grant III.											
Hospit...	6,41...	2,32...	...	988	135	96	201	165	...	105	...
Vaccina...	300	201	...	99	36	96	201	165	...	105	...
Registration o... ... and Deaths ...	100	102	2	...	56	92	102	46	...	10	...
Conservancy	3,456	2,743	...	713	1,849	3,429	2,743	894	...	...	686
Grant IV.											
Lighting	900	663	...	237	292	855	663	371	...	...	192
Other purposes...	600	477	...	123	107	192	477	370	..	285	...
Grant V.											
Supervision	1,490	1,427	...	63	1,263	1,599	1,427	164	...	...	172
Closing Balance	...	1,610	1,610	...	3,537	862	1,610	...	1,927	748	...
Total ...	16,175	17,011	3,839	3,003	8,965	20,326	17,011	10,526	2,480	3,399	6,714
		Net increase.	836				Net increase ...	8,046	Net decrease		3,315

3. Receipts—*Assignment by Government.*—The receipts represent the one fourth share of the salary of the Native Surgeon in charge of the dispensary for the months of January and February 1875, and of the medical establishment and servants borne by the Provincial Service and which was drawn and credited in the accounts with reference to the Auditor's remarks adverted to in paragraph 6 of G.O., No. 164, dated the 28th January 1875. Since the commencement of 1875-76 the contribution does not appear in the accounts.

4. *Rates on Houses, &c.*—Owing to extensive transfers of possession of landed property, &c., that took place during the year under report, the requisite bills were, with some difficulty, prepared and issued only in the latter part of the year for realization. This circumstance, together with remissions claimable for property left waste or unoccupied, has led to the decrease of collections as compared with the estimates. Nearly the whole amount of recoverable balance was made good by subsequent collections.

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A comparison with the actuals of the preceding years shows an increase in the collections of 1872-73 ; this is owing to almost the whole amount of the collections due for that part of 1871-72, in which the Act was for the first time introduced, having had to be realized in the following year, *i.e.*, 1872-73.

5. *Tax on Arts.*—This sum represents the collections of the outstanding arrears of the previous years. The tax was abolished from the commencement of the year under report.

6. *Contribution from Private Individuals.*—This amount includes the sum of Rupees 2,000 contributed by Her Highness the Princess of Tanjore and His Highness the Prince Consort, and also the sum of Rupees 500 remitted by Her Highness Kamatchi Bayi Sahiba, towards the extension of Hospital buildings.

7. Turning to the Demand, Collection, and Balance Statement, the outstanding arrears* at the close of the year under report has, by subsequent collections, been reduced to Rupees 1,793-13-6. Claims preferred for remitting the balance are under inquiry, and will soon be disposed of.

* Rupees 3,731-0-6.

8. Expenditure—Grant I—*New Works.*—The expenditure on New Works, amounting to Rupees 3,823, was incurred on the undermentioned works :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
(*a.*) Dispensary Buildings	1,885	7	10
(*b.*) Municipal Office	791	0	2
(*c.*) Bathing Ghaut on the Cauvery North Bank	803	4	11
(*d.*) Surface drains	343	2	5
Total ...	3,822	15	4

The expenditure on Dispensary buildings relates chiefly to the construction of another ward and a lying-in ward.

The Municipal Office building has been completed, and it is now being used, as a temporary measure, for the accommodation of female in-patients, pending the completion of the aforesaid wards.

Considerable progress was made during the year in the construction of the bathing-ghaut ; the work has since been completed and thrown open to the public in October last, and proved a great success.

Eleven masonry surface drains and tunnels were constructed.

9. *Repairs.*—The expenditure on repairs has nearly exhausted the Budget allotment.

10. Grant II—*Education.*—The allotment under this head has been almost wholly utilized, and it would have also been exceeded had not the Commissioners deprived one of the schoolmasters in the town of the full amount of the grant claimed, because they discovered that he had actually induced a boy belonging to another school to appear in his own school as one of its pupils during its examination by the Deputy Inspector of Schools. The Commissioners further warned the Managers of the school, and called on them to remove the teacher from the institution.

For the better development of systematic elementary education, the Commissioners propose establishing, as an experimental measure, five Municipal Schools in the town, and with this view they have entered the sum of Rupees 1,312 in the ensuing year's Budget.

Paragraph 8 of my letter to Government, No. 26, dated 29th ultimo.

Towards the close of the year under report a Girls' School was established, and the same is working well.

11. GRANT III—*Hospitals.*—The Dispensary has, beyond doubt, proved a great success. No less than 11,700 individuals were admitted during the year against 10,093 of the preceding year, as shown below :—

Year.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Total.
1873-74	10,088	5	10,093
1874-45	11,525	175	11,700

The annexed statement gives the particulars of attendance :—

Month.	Out-patients.				In-patients.			
	Admissions.	Old Cases seen.	Total.	Average Daily Sick.	Admissions.	Old Cases seen.	Total.	Average Daily Sick.
1874.								
April	813	1,060	1,873	62·43	7	123	130	4·33
May	763	913	1,676	54·06	12	120	132	4·25
June	1,022	1,365	2,387	79·56	[illegible]	198	201	6·70
July	1,136	1,601	2,737	88·29	[illegible]	325	341	11·00
August	1,014	1,253	2,267	73·12	11	316	327	10·54
September	1,007	1,168	2,175	72·50	16	240	256	8·53
October	957	1,213	2,170	70·00	10	224	234	7·54
November	973	1,093	2,066	68·86	21	282	303	10·10
December	990	939	1,929	62·22	24	535	559	18·03
1875.								
January	943	1,167	2,110	68·06	12	325	337	10·87
February	985	1,202	2,187	78·10	20	398	418	14·92
March...	922	1,082	2,004	64·64	13	392	405	13·06
Total ...	*11,525	14,056	25,581	841·84	†175	3,468	3,643	119·87

The abstract below gives the particulars of caste, &c., of the individuals admitted during the year :—

——	Out-patients.			In-patients.			Remarks.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Europeans	4	1	5	...	...	...	Pilgrims and the inhabitants of the district in general constitute the great bulk of this number.
Brahmins	3,244	2,369	5,613	11	4	15	
Hindus	3,328	2,486	5,814	132	27	159	
Mahomedans ...	36	20	56	1	...	1	
Native Christians.	19	18	37	...	...	...	
Total ...	6,631	4,894	11,525	144	31	175	

* Including the seventy-nine individuals pending treatment at the beginning of the year the total number treated during the year was 11,604.

† The actual number treated was 178, including the cases pending at the beginning of the year.

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The following is the description of diseases for which the aforesaid individuals were treated :—

1. Ascaris lumbricoides	2,606	19. Sprain	78
2. Ulcers	1,550	20. Tumours	75
3. Constipation	919	21. Gonorrhœa	77
4. Fevers	805	22. Catarrh	53
5. Conjunctivitis	635	23. Psoriasis	54
6. Rheumatism	606	24. Asthma	53
7. Itch	506	25. Bubo	56
8. Inflammation, external meatous ...	501	26. General Dropsy	62
9. Dyspepsia	467	27. Colic	46
10. Herpes	310	28. Burns	44
11. Abscess	243	29. Orchitis	42
12. Bronchitis	208	30. Anæmia	38
13. Wounds	205	31. Monkey bites	38
14. Neuralgia	150	32. General Debility	36
15. Diarrhœa	145	Other Causes	795
16. Dysentery	107		
17. Syphilis	99	Total ...	11,700
18. Boils	91		

The actual charges amounted to Rupees 4,417, as shown below, against the allotment of Rupees 5,400 :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Establishment	2,703	4	3
Medicines, &c.	856	4	4
Dietary	366	6	0
Contingencies	490	12	7
Total ...	4,416	11	2

A copy of the report submitted to the Surgeon-General by the Native Surgeon in charge of the Dispensary is herein enclosed.

12. *Vaccination.*—The total number of cases operated on amounts to 834, of which 761 was successful and 73 unsuccessful. The prejudices existing among the more ignorant classes are gradually wearing away, and the prophylactic powers of vaccination are being duly appreciated.

The annexed entry compares the operations of the year under report with those of the preceding two years :—

	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Total Cases operated.
1872-73	340	3	343
1873-74	385	17	402
1874-75	761	73	834

The Vaccinator is paid on the Result system at 2 Annas for each successful case, and 1 Rupee extra for every hundred cases operated on in one month. The parents or guardians of each child vaccinated are also paid 2 Annas.

13. *Registration of Births and Deaths.*—The number of births and deaths registered during the year was, respectively, 362 and 408 in a population of 18,655:—

Sex.	Births.	Deaths.
Male	181	199
Female	181	209
Total ...	362	408

The health of the town was good, and the year was free from any outbreak of cholera. The number of pilgrims that attended the annual feast was about 30,000, and the usual sanitary arrangements made on the occasion served to secure to the community perfect immunity from disease.

14. *Conservancy.*—The difference between the actual expenditure and the Budget allotment occurs chiefly under the following three items:—

1*st.*—Provision made for the cleansing of reservoirs.

2*nd.*—Provision made for special sanitary arrangements on the occasion of the annual feast.

3*rd.*—Provision made for night soil carts. The Commissioners found it impracticable to utilize the first item with advantage.

The comparatively small number of pilgrims that attended the annual feast during the year, owing to the Christmas holidays having occurred after the n[illegible] the estimated expe[illegible] under item No. 2.

The night soil carts (item 3) were not employed as the latrines were not ready.

15. GRANT IV—*Lighting.*—The town was provided with eighty-seven Kerosene lamps; the aggregate expenditure fell short of the Budget allotment owing to certain bills of charges having been paid after the expiration of the year.

16. GRANT V.—The expenditure has nearly absorbed the Budget allotment.

17. The accounts were audited by the Treasury Deputy Collector whose report,* together with an extract from the Proceedings of the Commissioners on the subject, are herewith submitted.

* Sent separately on the 18th instant.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Municipal Commission, Srirangam, under date the 26th November 1875.

* * *

Read report of the Auditor of the Municipal Accounts for 1874-75.

The Commissioners observe, with reference to paragraphs 5 and 6 of the report, that bills of work executed were debited in the accounts under proper head after the same had been formally passed by Commissioners at a meeting.

Whenever there was delay in getting the bills thus passed, and when the Municipal assets in the Treasury were at too low an ebb to admit of the amount of the estimated expenditure being drawn beforehand and held at Commissioners' disposal during the progress of the work, the wages of laborers were disbursed, on the responsibility of the Commissioner in immediate charge of the

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work, from the collections after they had been received in the Municipal Office and debited to proper head in its accounts; the disbursements thus made were duly noted in a separate book known as Advance-book. After the bills were formally passed by the Commissioners the amount thereof was duly included in the Remittance list subsequently sent to the Treasury along with a cheque drawn for the sum in question, and the necessary adjustment made, debiting the sum to proper head in the Disbursement-book.

The object of the Commissioners in adopting this course was simply to ensure prompt payment of wages, expeditious execution of work, and maintenance of perfect agreement between the Municipal and Treasury accounts as regards the gross collections and charges of the Municipality.

To avoid all discussion, the Commissioners will arrange that the bills are *invariably* passed at meetings convened as often as necessary, before wages, &c., are paid. The Permanent Advance Fund need not be enhanced.

A separate book containing the name of each subscriber, the amount subscribed, and his initials or signature has duly been maintained, and the same was on the occasion of the audit in circulation for the collection of the amount due, it was only through clerical error that its existence was not brought to Auditor's notice.

The entry below shows that out of the thirteen works provided for in the Budget Estimates no less than ten were executed during the year:—

	Amount entered in the Budget.	Amount of Work done.
1. Road to Melur...	500	...
2. Flight of steps near Ammamantapam Cauvery North Bank.	700	803
3. Dust-bins...	149	
4. Latrines	500	
5. Chitre V[illegible]	150	91
6. Vulteru	110	66
7. Adayavalanjan	200	251
8. Road between Jembukesvaram and Srirangam	400	261
9. Road between Coleroon Bridge to Melur	100	25
10. Ammamantapam Road	100	21
11. Jembukesvaram and Kendayempett Roads	350	322
12. Nelson Road	150	63
13. Petty repairs	50	53

The formation of the proposed road to Melur was not undertaken as, before doing so, all the irrigating channels which intersected the line required to be provided with masonry tunnels by the Department of Public Works from the Imperial Funds.

The Commissioners deferred the construction of dust-bins in the second enclosure known as Chitre street, where houses run in two parallel lines along the stone enclosure walls, pending the removal of the monkeys that had until recently infested the town.

The provision for latrines was not utilized as the negotiations for the acquisition of the sites selected for the purpose were not completed.

The works executed during the year and which were not entered in the Budgets are as follow:—

(*a.*) A lying-in ward and a male ward.

(*b.*) The Municipal Office building.

(*c.*) Tunnels or surface masonry drains.

The wards referred to were undertaken after the receipt of the contributions from the Tanjore Palace in November 1874. As this donation was not foreseen at the time the Budgets were prepared, the work did not appear in them.

The Commissioners were in hopes of completing the Municipal Office building in 1873-74, and the work did not therefore appear in the Budgets of 1874-75. The Commissioners were only able to get a portion of the work executed within the former year.

The surface drains referred to were undertaken and constructed, as a good supply of stone was obtained from the foundations of certain ruined buildings placed at the disposal of the Municipality by the Pagoda Trustees, and the Commissioners at once availed themselves of this opportunity to construct the drains in question with the view of improving the drainage of the town.

* * *

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. SEWELL,
President.

From C. SIVASANKARA MUDALI, Auditor of the Municipal Accounts, Srirangam, to H. SEWELL, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Srirangam, dated Trichinopoly, 5th November 1875.

I have the honor to submit my report on the audit of the accounts of the Srirangam Municipality for the official year 1874-75.

2. The audit was commenced in July immediately after the receipt of the Proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners asking me to undertake this work, but owing to my absence on leave, and to my desire to examine the accounts carefully, I was not able to complete it earlier.

3. All the accounts of the Municipality are written neatly and kept accurately. Great credit is no doubt due to the Head Clerk who prepares these accounts. All the items of expenditure are supported by proper vouchers.

4. [illegible] the suggestions made by the previous Auditors, particularly those contained in M.E. [illegible] ... dated 30th ... 1874, and [illegible] ... ; but owing either to the insufficiency of this amount, or the delay in issuing cheques and getting money from the Treasury, payments for presumably emergent works are made from the collections. This procedure is I think irregular, for the expenditure is not entered in the Disbursement-book till after the cheque for the work is cashed and the amount credited in the receipts, but is noted in a separate memorandum called an "Advance-book." I would advocate the propriety of each item of receipt and disbursement being entered in the registers each day as the transaction takes place, so that any evening the totals of receipts and disbursements, together with the balance in hand and the Permanent Advance Fund, may show at a glance the financial condition of the Municipality.

6. To carry out this suggestion it may probably be necessary to augment the Permanent Advance Fund. What this amount ought to be can be determined by the Commissioners, and the money may be placed with the Vice-President on his own responsibility.

7. A sum of Rupees 3,441 has been received during the current year from private subscription; out of this Rupees 2,650 have been received from three donors, and the remainder from various gentlemen.

8. No register is kept of the names of these several subscribers and donors; there is thus no possibility of testing the several details of this item. I would submit for the consideration of the Commissioners the advisability of opening a separate book showing the name of each subscriber or donor, and the amount as well as the date of its receipt.

9. To turn to the financial condition of the Municipality.

10. The total receipts for the year under report with the balance in hand are Rupees 17,010-2-11, being slightly in excess of the Budget Estimate by Rupees 835-2-11; the excess is due to increased collections under Fees, Fines, &c. The total expenditure amounts to Rupees 15,400-4-4, or Rupees 774-11-8 below the sanctioned estimate. An examination of the details under Grant I will show that the expenditure far exceeded the estimate by Rupees 2,130-12-11, and that the works originally proposed, while framing the Budget, were not carried out, but that

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the money was spent upon quite different projects. The excess expenditure on this head was, however, more than balanced by the savings under other heads of expenditure.

11. While on this subject I have deemed it necessary to state, although it may not be within the province of an Auditor to do so, that the appropriation of money for works different from those budgeted for, except in rare special cases, renders the object of a Budget altogether useless.

12. An abstract of the demand, collection, and balance of the Municipality under all sources of revenue is annexed:—

	House-tax.			Land-tax.			Tax on Arts, &c.			Other Items.			Total.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Demand including arrears	6,393	3	6	3,091	1	6	1,912	9	0	9,215	4	3	20,612	2	3
Collection	4,802	4	0	857	12	6	1,273	0	0	9,215	4	3	16,148	4	9
Remitted	65	9	0	39	4	0	26	0	0	...	...	...	130	13	0
Written off as irrecoverable	...	...	...	...	...	...	602	0	0	...	...	...	602	0	0
Balance	1,525	6	6	2,194	1	0	11	9	0	...	...	...	8,731	0	6
Subsequent Collections.	499	11	0	1,320	4	0	4	0	0	...	...	...	1,823	15	0

13. The usual statements Nos. 1 to 4, with the enclosures, are herewith forwarded.

Report on the Civil Dispensary, Srirangam, for the Year ending 31*st March* 1875.

The following show[illegible] and discharges during the past year:—

	Number of Sick.	Natives.	Europeans.
Remained	In-patients	3	...
	Out do.	79	...
Admitted	In do.	175	...
	Out do.	11,520	5
Total	In do.	178	...
	Out do.	11,599	5
Cured	In do.	137	...
	Out do.	11,349	5
Relieved	In do.	12	...
	Out do.	71	...
No better	In do.	2	...
	Out do.	...	...
Absented	In do.	...	...
	Out do.	123	...
Died	In do.	14	...
	Out do.	...	...
Remaining	In do.	13	...
	Out do.	56	...
Average daily sick	In do.	9·98	...
	Out do.	70·15	·01

I am glad to state that the working of the Dispensary during the past year has been most satisfactory. The number has increased in proportion as the benefits of the institution are being appreciated, and its success is become widely known. It has afforded relief not only to those

residing in the district, but to a large number of pilgrims, coming all the year round, from different parts of India to visit the sacred shrine of Srirangam. Of the number of in and out patients treated in the Dispensary, the strangers or persons visiting the pagoda from distant parts form nearly three-tenths. During the grand Cottaye feast in December, and the Chithiry feast in April, the concourse of people who assemble here freely resort to the Dispensary even for the most trivial sickness, and the attendance therefore on these occasions is generally very large.

Since the opening of the new Dispensary in March 1874 in-patients have been admitted and treated. This has certainly proved a great boon to the Byragees and other pilgrims who, after wandering through different parts of the country, come to rest here, ill with fatigue, exposure to the inclemencies of the weather, and starvation. Several persons have also come from a distance of forty and fifty miles with their families, stayed in the hospital till they were pretty well, and then left. These patients invariably dieted themselves, their families taking abode in the town and providing them with proper dietary food.

2. The new Dispensary is built on a piece of land a little more than two cawnies in extent, situated about two hundred yards from the southern or principal entrance of the town. The buildings at present consist of four blocks, others being in the course of construction. The central block is terraced and contains two large rooms, one in front of another, and two small back rooms, with a veranda of seven feet all round. The front rooms are of equal dimension, and well ventilated; and they are used, one for seeing the out-patients, and the other for compounding and dispensing medicine. The back rooms are also of equal extent, the medical stores being kept in one, and the patients' clothing and bedding in the other. The dimensions of these rooms are as follow :—

	L.	B.	H.
Front rooms	15	× 15½	× 13
[illegible]	[illegible]	× [illegible]	× 13

A large spacious room length 31½ × breadth 15½ × height 13½ is built upstairs, in which the Municipal Office is at present temporarily located, but which is expressly intended for the periodical Municipal and Dispensary meetings which are now being held there.

About forty feet to the east of this building is the second block, a thatched building containing a large single ward, with a veranda of six feet all round and two small back or bathing-rooms, placed on the angles of the veranda. The ward is amply lighted and ventilated by six doors, six windows, and eight ventilators. It holds twelve beds and has the following dimensions :—

L.	B.	H.
46	× 15	× 22.

This affords 57½ superficial and 1,265 cubic space per each bed. This ward had been divided into two compartments for the accommodation of male and female in-patients by a partition wall which is now removed, the latter being lodged in a small building recently erected within the Dispensary compound for the Municipal Office. The construction of another ward to the west of the main block has just been begun, and as soon as this is completed each sex will have a separate ward for itself.

About eighty feet behind and to the south of the existing ward is a latrine with six seats. It is thatched, and has several large apertures for the free circulation of air. The drains discharge their contents outside the building into an angular tin tube, from which the sewage is received by a large open-mouthed chatty. The seats, the drains, the tubes, and the chatties are all well tarred; the dry earth is freely used and the floor is flushed two or three times a-day. By these means the latrine is kept clear and free from smell.

In a line with the building but sufficiently apart from it is another small thatched house containing two rooms each for storing and cooking provisions.

There is a large well six feet in diameter in the compound immediately behind the central block. This yields good water and of sufficient quantity to last all the year round. It is used for cooking and drinking purposes.

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3. The new Dispensary was entered on the 9th March 1874. On the evening of that day there was a gathering of European ladies and gentlemen, and native gentlemen, who had been invited for the occasion. Some interesting ceremonies were first gone through according to custom of natives on first entering a new abode. After these were over, at the earnest solicitation of the Commissioners, Mrs. Pennington, by whom the foundation stone of the building had been laid in the previous year, now kindly declared the Dispensary open. In grateful acknowledgment of the service which the lady had condescended to render to the Dispensary in first laying its foundation stone, and after it is completed, in formally opening it, the Commissioners resolved to dedicate the ward to her, and call it "Mrs. Pennington's ward," by which name it is now known, and a tablet to that effect is fixed in one of the walls.

4. I now beg to furnish the information called for in circular memorandum, No. 7204, dated 4th November 1874.

The history of the institution I extract below from my report of the Dispensary for 1874.

The proposition for establishing a dispensary in this town originated with Surgeon-General Balfour, who, at his visit to this place in autumn 1871, met the church wardens and spoke to them of the importance of having a dispensary here, and of the benefits which such an institution would confer on the inhabitants and pilgrims, and finally tried to persuade them to bestow a portion of the Pagoda Funds in establishing this most useful charity. Although this had not the desired effect then, yet in a few months the trustees of the pagoda were induced to come forward with a subscription of Rupees 300 per annum, which sum now forms one of the resources out of which the dispensary is at present maintained. This amount was shortly supplemented by a donation of about Rupees 500, which was raised at a public meeting convened in Srirangam on the 6th June 1872, Sheristadar Pattabhiram Pillai presiding. It is needless to add that the small annual sum offered by the trustees was quite inadequate to defray the expenses which would be required [illegible] so raise more money having proved unavailing, the project was likely to have been [illegible] Commissioners, aware of the necessity there existed for the establishment of a dispensary in this town, and conscious of the advantages which would accrue from it to the public, warmly espoused its cause; and at a meeting held on the 10th September 1872 resolved to grant Rupees 1,200 from their limited funds towards its support. They then applied themselves to secure for the dispensary sufficient contributions from other sources, which they were able to achieve through the strenuous, zealous, and well-directed exertions of Mr. Pennington, their President. An application being made to the members of the Local Fund Board of this Circle, they, at a meeting held on the 12th September 1872, agreed to grant Rupees 1,500 per annum, equivalent to the local contributions, *viz.*, Rupees 1,200 from the Municipality, and Rupees 300 from the Pagoda trustees. The Commissioners next sent an earnest appeal to Government, soliciting their assistance, who in their Proceedings, No. 1446, dated 23rd October 1872, after recognising the public spirit displayed by the Commissioners, sanctioned gratis a very liberal grant of a supply of the necessary surgical instruments, and a six months' supply of medicines, for the proposed institution.

With these means at their command, the Commissioners resolved to open the dispensary on the 1st January 1873, which was accordingly done as already noticed.

1. Name of town, Srirangam; population of town proper, 11,271; population of the district, 1,200,408.

2. The Dispensary was established on the 1st January 1873.

3. It was originated by the Municipal Commissioners of Srirangam.

4. It is supported by an annual contribution of Rupees 1,200 from the Srirangam Municipality, Rupees 300 from the Srirangam Pagoda, and Rupees 1,500 from the Local Fund Board of this Circle. Besides the sums above particularized, Rupees 791 have been realized by voluntary subscriptions during the past year, and an amount equal to it has been granted by the Local Fund Board according to their Proceedings, dated 8th May 1873, promising to supplement the voluntary subscriptions with an equal sum for covering the pay of the Native Surgeon in charge. This is shown in the accompanying financial statement.

5. I have been in charge ever since the establishment of the Dispensary.

6. Years.	Total Admissions.		Average Daily Sick.		Total Deaths.	
	In.	Out.	In.	Out.	In.	Out.
1873	0	9,503	0	66·02	0	2
1874	135	11,180	6·92	68·18	11	0

7. Dimensions of Hospital is already given in paragraph 2.

8. There is no Police Hospital at this station. A Lying-in Hospital, the erection of which has been commenced three months back, is nearly finished, and will be ready for use in about a-month.

9. There are many Vydians and Hakeems in this district. Their principal medicines are derived from the vegetable and animal kingdoms. Every herb, every plant, has a medicinal value in the eyes of the Vydians and they use them freely, combining numerous drugs in one prescription with the idea, I suppose, that some one or other of the drugs cannot fail to attack the disease. They are ignorant of the *modus operandi* of the medicines they employ, nor have they any knowledge of the anatomy of the human system. They attempt to diagnose disease by the pulse at the wrist, which they divide into three parts—Vayvoo, Pithem, and Slashpum—corresponding to the three fingers with which they feel the pulse. Any rise, or fulness, or hardness, in the stroke of pulse Vayvoo according to their idea, denotes fevers and inflammations; in the pulse Pithum, derang[illegible] liver and bowels; and in [illegible] each of death. Of course, [illegible] be expected that any indications derive[illegible] remely unreliable source could be of the least advantage either to the patient or the practitioner. Some of their medicines, I must admit, are of great value as medicinal agents; but all their knowledge of medical science is chiefly derived from experience, which is communicated from father to son and kept secret amongst themselves. Hence the difficulty in finding out the particular ingredients which enter into the composition of a medicine, and the mode in which it is prepared.

The principal forms in which their medicines are administered are pills, decoctions, infusions, confections, and thylums or oils to bathe with. They are now learning to use a few of the ordinary European medicines, such as santonine, quinine, calomel, soda, jalap, and magnesia sulphas, &c.

10. No European medicines are sold in the bazaars in Srirangam, but in the town of Trichinopoly one Mr. Read has a small druggists' shop and sells European medicines at a very high rate. In the bazaars there, the following medicines are procurable, *viz.*, Potassi Potapi tartras acid chloras, santonine, quinine, calomel, soda, bicarbonas, potassi tartras acidas, jalap, magnesia sulphas, &c.

11. There is a vaccinator attached to the Municipality, who vaccinates in the town and villages included within the Municipal limits. He performed 834 (761 successful and seventy-three unsuccessful) operations during the year under report. Considering the population of the Municipality which is 18,655, and the inducement held out by the Commissioners by an offer of Annas 2 to the parent or guardian of each child successfully vaccinated, the number is certainly small, and shows the degree of opposition experienced by the vaccinator in the performance of his work. The people, as a mass, are not yet fully alive to the value of the prophylactic, but the more intelligent and higher classes appreciate its benefits, and are even anxious to have their children brought under its influence at a tender age. There are no inoculators in the town.

12. I have not seen any operations performed by a native oculist or lithotomist, but have often heard of a Mussulman, who it is reported performs lithotomy.

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27th May 1876.

5. The sanitary condition of the town is steadily improving under the Municipal direction. The health of the town and its neighborhood has remained undisturbed during the year under report, by an outbreak of any epidemic disease. The Cottaye festival in December last passed off without accident or injury or prevalance of any disease or epidemic amongst the 30,000 people assembled at that time.

6. The number of cases admitted during the past year under the head of In-patients has been 175, which with three that remained from the previous year make a total of 178 cases treated. Under the head of Out-patients, five Europeans and 11,520 Natives have been admitted, which with seventy-nine natives that remained from the previous year make a total of 11,604 cases treated. The total of admissions among the out-patients, compared with that of the previous year, shows an increase of 1,437 cases.

Out of the 175 in-patients treated in the dispensary, forty-five or nearly one-fourth dieted themselves, and the rest were dieted by the hospital.

7. The principal diseases presenting themselves for treatment have been fevers, rheumatic ailments, syphilis, conjunctivitis, disease of ear, bronchitis, disease of stomach and bowels, worms, abscesses and ulcers, disease of skin, wounds and injuries.

The mortality amongst in-patients has been fourteen, and occurred under the following heads: One under abscess, one ascites, five general dropsy, three diarrhœa, one general debility, one valvular disease of the heart, one apoplexy, one dysentery. Many of these cases, mostly strangers, have been brought to the dispensary in the last stage of disease, by persons who to relieve themselves from further trouble left them in the hospital compound and went away. Although they were in a wretched and hopeless condition, of course for the sake of humanity they were admitted and carefully attended to. Such cases only tend to swell the list of mortal[illegible] arter

8. No capital o[illegible] been performed. One man [illegible]g from came from a distance of fifty miles to have his leg removed, but as he was old, sixty-nine years of age and was then laboring under general dropsy, he was sent back to his village where he died in a few days afterwards. Several minor operations have been performed, a list of which with the results of operations accompanies.

9. The financial state of the dispensary appears to be favorable; the annual contributions received from the different sources already mentioned being quite sufficient to meet the ordinary requirements of the dispensary. It is gratifying to me to state that several native gentlemen, to mark their sense of appreciation of the usefulness of the institution, have voluntarily come forward with liberal subscriptions for its maintenance. My sincere thanks are due to these gentlemen for their benevolence, in readily offering their assistance for carrying out the objects of this charity. The income from this source has been Rupees 791, to which an equal amount was added by the Local Fund Board as I already stated.

Third-class Hospital Assistant C. Thirumalai Naidu, No. 990, is attached to this dispensary. He has rendered me able assistance, and has been active, diligent, and attentive in the discharge of his duties. I have every reason to be satisfied with him.

SRIRANGAM,
1*st April* 1875.

(Signed) C. BAULOO MUDALIAR, G.M.M.C.,
Native Surgeon, in Medical charge,
Civil Dispensary, Srirangam.

No. 242. ORDER THEREON, 27th May 1876, No. 939.

The report on the working of the Srirangam Municipality for the year 1874-75 is recorded with the following comparative statement of estimates and actuals for the year:—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
27th May 1876.

Receipts.	Estimates, 1874-75.	Actuals 1874-75.
	Rs.	Rs.
Balance brought forward...	500	862
Assignments by Government..	600	237
Rates on Houses	8,200	5,660
Taxes on Arts	800	1,273
Taxes on Vehicles	400	662
Registration of Carts	300	351
Tolls	1,000	...
Fees	350	470
Fines	150	216
Endowments, &c.	...	3,766
Contribution from Local Funds	2,600	3,433
Miscellaneous	1,275	80
Total ...	16,175	17,010

Charges.	Estimates, 1874-75.	Actuals 1874-75.
	Rs.	Rs.
Grant I.		
New Works—		
Communications	500	343
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	1,349	3,480
Repairs—		
Communications	1,610	1,112
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	...	2
Establishment	120	120
Tools and Plant	...	14
Grant II.		
Municipal Schools	...	30
Results Grants	350	220
Contribution to Local Funds for Educational Inspection.	...	50
Grant III.		
Hospitals and Dispensaries.	5,400	4,417
Vaccination	300	200
Registration of Births and Deaths	100	102
Grant IV.		
Lighting	900	663
Avenues, &c.	600	477
Grant V.		
Supervision and Management	1,490	1,427
Balances	...	1,610
Total ...	16,175	17,010

(True Extract.)

W. Larkins Jr
for Chief Secretary.

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

Exd. J. Wright.

No 2429
Revenue 1876 Depart te

Govt. of 1876 Madras

FINANCIAL.

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Srirangam,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated May 27th.
Issued 1/6/6
Recd 7 June 1876 Encl.

G.O., 27th May 1876, No. 939.

MAY.
Nos. 241-242.

Municipal—*Report.*—The annual report of the working of the Srirangam Municipality during 1874-75, reviewed.

No 1409
Lodged
7 June 1876

6.6.76