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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,
29th May 1876. No. 966.*

Municipal—Report.

No. 268. Read the following letter from W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madura, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Peralakulam, 25th August 1875, No. 63:—

I have the honor to submit, herewith, the Annual Report of the Dindigul Municipality for the official year 1874-75, together with the prescribed statements.

2. A report from the Reverend E. Chester on the Dispensary at Dindigul and the Auditor's statement are also herewith forwarded.

3. With reference to para. 19 of the Commissioners' report, I request sanction to write off as irrecoverable the amount of Rupees 907-2-1 therein referred to.

REPORT on the working of the Towns Improvement Act (III of 1871) in the Town of Dindigul, for the year 1874-75.

The opening balance, at the commencement of the year, was Rupees 3,588-4-2. The actual receipts of the year were Rupees 10,314-5-0. The total expenditure was Rupees 9,378-15-10, and the balance in hand at the end of the year Rupees 4,523-9-4.

RECEIPTS.—STATEMENT No. 1.

2. *House-tax.*—The collection under this head, including arrears, amounted to Rupees 1,548-8-0, about the same as last year. The outstanding balance is in course of collection.

3. *Tax on Vehicles, &c.*—The current revenue under this head was Rupees 721, being a little less than the previous year.

4. *Registration of Carts.*—The receipts from this source have been Rupees 467, almost the same as the previous year.

5. *Tolls.*—Collections from tolls amounted to Rupees 6,075, being Rupees 406-5-5 more than last year.

6. *Miscellaneous.*—The receipts under this head were Rs. 1,229-4-0, being Rs. 186-15-2 less than last year. Most of the houses having been supplied with door numbers, the receipts for this item have amounted to but little. In renting the Market stalls it has again been found that the prices paid at the first and second auction sales were higher than the business of the place actually warranted. Still we may expect, with the opening of the railroad, that more houses will be built in the neighbourhood of the market and the demand for stalls increased.

DISBURSEMENT.—STATEMENT No. 2.

7. *GRANT I—Public Works. New Works.*—Rupees 675 have been spent on a new road through the centre of the town, which affords the shortest and most direct approach to the railroad station from the north-west portion of the town. The opening of this road has also done much for the town in a sanitary point of view. The track for the road was much of it an old watercourse, which was used in many parts as a latrine; and it has opened up a number of good building sites and improved a portion of the town where it will be very desirable to have a good class of residents. The improvement of narrow lanes by revetting and building of culverts, at their junction with the main roads, has been continued through the year. One item of expense, amounting to Rupees 198-8-0, which will eventually return to the Municipality, was for the improvement of the ground in Nahalnaickenputti, within the Municipal limits, where the weekly market is held. Raised platforms have been built for the sellers, and convenient pathways for the buyers, as also regular passages for bandies and bullocks. The people have thoroughly

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appreciated this change, as we are now able to separate the various kinds of goods brought for sale and prevent much of the confusion which was the rule before. Further improvements are being made, which will doubtless result in making this weekly market larger and more popular than it has ever been. The general superintendence and direction of this market is now in the hands of the Municipality, the Town Overseer, Municipal Peons, and a few of the Sweepers remaining on ground through the day. The collection of small fees, which has been sanctioned by Government, will commence as soon as a few more improvements of the ground are completed.

8. *Repairs*—The principal items of expense have been for the maintenance of streets and lanes within the Municipal limits. The total amount of expenditure, amounting to Rupees 310, is slightly under the estimate.

9. *GRANT II—Education*.—The expenditure under this head has amounted to Rs. 897-4-10, of which sum, Rupees 314-12-10 were for the cost of Educational inspectorate.

Of a total of Rupees 582-8-0 paid for Results grants, Rupees 20 have been paid to a Hindustani School, the last two months of 1874-75, under the combined system of Salary and Results grants.

The total number of scholars under instruction is larger this year than last. This is especially the case in the schools for girls, but as the Results grant for these schools have been paid from Provincial Funds, the fact is not shown in the summary of the educational work for the year under consideration, herewith appended.

10. The following summary will give the results of the educational work for the year under consideration :—

Town.	Number of Schools examined.	Stand-ard.	Number of Pupils examined.	Number passed in Reading.	Number passed in Writing.	Number passed in Arith-metic.	Number passed in Gram-mar.	Number passed in Geogra-phy.	
Dindigul...	8	1st 2nd 3rd	99 68 32	74 54 19	84 65 11	81 41 4	 14	 14	Tamil English.

11. *GRANT III—Sanitation*.—The estimate under this head was Rupees 3,580, and the expenditure Rupees 3,230-15-4. Of this sum, Rupees 446-4-0 was granted to the Dindigul Dispensary for establishment, bazaar medicine, dieting pauper patients, and contingencies; and Rupees 166-9-8 for medicines from the Medical Stores.

12. The details of the work for the year in the dispensary, the number and character of the cases treated, and the various items of expenditure will be shown in the Annual Report of the Dindigul Dispensary and Financial Statement which accompany this.

13. *Vaccination*.—The total number of successful cases of vaccination has been 1,285, of which number 224 were of persons under one year of age. This is 357 cases more than were reported last year. The average cost of each case was Annas 1-10, being 8 Pies less than last year. The payment of a small gratuity for each successful case has doubtless tended to stimulate the vaccinator; the average cost of the cases, however, has not been increased.

14. *Registration of Births and Deaths*.—Four hundred and fifty births and 200 deaths were registered during the year under report. There has been no epidemic in the town, and the year has been, on the whole, an unusually healthy one.

15. *Conservancy*.—The establishment maintained is given in detail in Statement II-B, varying but little from last year. The work has been attended to on the whole in a very satisfactory manner.

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16. *GRANT IV—Miscellaneous*.—Out of the total expenditure of Rupees 1,582-2-2, which includes the pay of the necessary establishments for lighting the town, for the market and dawk bungalow, and for watering avenue trees, Rupees 366-12-0 have been paid for fourteen iron lamp-posts and six brackets, including cost of rail charge from Madras, &c. Forty-seven lamps are now regularly in use. This increased number has added considerably to the cost of kerosene oil. But there can be no question as to the expediency of this additional outlay, as no expenditure we make meets with a more hearty approval of the people than that for lighting the town.

17. *GRANT V—Supervision and Management*.—The total expenditure under this head amounted to Rupees 1,201-1-7. A slight increase has been caused by the appointment of an additional Clerk on Rupees 10 per mensem for use in the office as Cashkeeper. Rupees 229 were paid to a Surveyor and lascars to complete the large map of the town, commenced two years since. Rupees 79-14-0 were paid for compensation for land and houses purchased for the purpose of widening and improving certain streets.

18. *STATEMENT II-A*.—The particulars in connection with this statement have already been given.

19. *STATEMENT IV*.—Steps are being taken for the collection of the arrears in the current demand of house-tax.

The item of Rupees 962-2-1 in the statement of arrears, a debt of the parties who took the first toll contract from the Municipality, has been reduced to Rupees 907-2-1. But as from facts which have come to the knowledge of the Commissioners, they are of opinion that it is extremely improbable that any further sum can be realized, they request Government to allow them to write this amount off as irrecoverable.

20. The very important matter of a water supply for the town of Dindigul has come up for discussion at a number of the regular Meetings of the Commissioners. There is no difference of opinion in regard to the necessity for making immediate provision for a supply of drinking water for the town, as each year this seems to be more imperative. But two very distinct plans have been proposed for a water supply, and it has been difficult to secure unanimity on the subject among the Commissioners. We are now promised by the Executive Engineer of the District, as soon as the services of a Surveyor can be spared, a survey and levels, together with a rough estimate of the probable expense of bringing water from the Kohdavan river, and storing it in a tank or reservoir near the rock. This plan can be carried out at a very much less cost than that of gathering the water of three or four tanks east of the town, and having a distributing reservoir on the high land near the present Sub-Collector's bungalow. The commencement of work on either plan would at once reduce the balance which we now have on hand, and to which reference is made in G.O., 4th March 1875, No. 490, Financial, "Budget Estimate for 1875-76."

21. The new Municipal Office was commenced at once on the reception of the sanction of Government to the Budget Estimates of 1875-76, and will be completed within six months. It is built upon a portion of the compound of the Travellers' Bungalow, and between that building and the road. A great improvement has been made, at a very small outlay, in opening a road of eight yards width, from north to south, through the western portion of this compound. It affords an easy passage from the main road to the new road referred to in the 7th Section of this report.

22. It has been a noticeable feature of the year under review that an unusual number of houses of a superior class have been built or are in progress. This has been partly owing to the fact that the mode of burning stone introduced by contractors for the railroad, to furnish stone for their station buildings and bridges, has brought a large amount of this very excellent building stone into the market of a convenient size and shape for building purposes, and at a price but little above that of brick.

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23. The annual report of the Dindigul Dispensary and the Financial Statement are herewith appended, as also the report of the Auditor of the Municipal Accounts for 1874-75.

DINDIGUL,
6th August 1875.

(Signed) E. CHESTER, M.D.,
Vice-President.

Report of the Dindigul Dispensary for 1874-75.

Total of newly registered cases is	No.	8,444
Aggregate attendance of old and new cases	"	17,044
Number of villages from which patients have come	"	679
Subscriptions and donations of Native friends	Rs.	129 6 11
Amount received in Dispensary charity box	"	26 4 3
Medicines sold at the Dispensary	"	1 15 3
Subscriptions and donations from friends among the Civilians ..	"	369 0 0

Of the newly registered cases 4,056 were medical, 3,510 surgical, 643 both medical and surgical, and 235 were cases of vaccination. Of these, 117 were Europeans, 69 East Indians, 2,113 Native Christians, 907 Mahomedans, and 5,238 Hindus.

2. There have been 141 in-patients. Of the newly registered cases there were, under six years of age, 1,028 males and 711 females; from six to twenty-one years of age there were 1,628 males and 971 females; above twenty-one years of age there were 2,481 males and 1,625 females.

3. For the twelve months under review, being the official year of 1874-75, a larger number of patients have attended the Dispensary than in any previous year. They have also come from a greater number of villages. This not only indicates that more suffering has been relieved, but it is also a gratifying proof of the increased confidence which the people from the villages have in the work of the dispensary. The general character of the work during the year, the number of surgical operations, the work in the Lying-in Hospital, and by the trained midwife, with Government diploma, working in the villages, have varied little from that of previous years. The two diploma'd midwives have had a total of eighty-nine cases.

4. The new Hospital Chuttrum or Rest-house for patients and their friends from the villages, of which mention was made in our last Annual Report, has been finished, and in use for nearly a year. The natives who have already occupied it express much satisfaction with it and it bids fair to be as popular with all classes as our detached houses. It has cost about Rupees 1,400. It is built on a plan to suit the natives, and with special reference to their preferences, while care has been taken to have it well lighted and ventilated and easily kept clean. There are four separate kitchen or cooking places and room for fifty or more occupants. There is also safe accommodation for ten bandies and their bullocks. The Chuttrum stands on a very eligible site and there is enough land connected with it for all hospital purposes. As soon as I can finish my main dispensary building and collect the funds, I purpose erecting two small and inexpensive buildings for the express use of poor European and East Indian in-patients. It is now a matter of much difficulty to provide for such.

5. The Madura Mission, in giving me Medical charge after Dr. Palmer left for America on sick leave, allowed me to make use of the grant, which our Board had provided for a Medical class. This grant, being but a small one, made it necessary to receive but a small number to the class, and I have endeavored to use the greatest care in the selection of candidates, among many who applied for admission. The class has been carried on in Dindigul, in connection with the Dindigul Dispensary.

6. I have now a class of ten young men, including four of the Dispensary Compounders and Assistants. They are in two divisions, and while the members of one division are taking notes or reciting, the members of the other are working in the dispensary. On Wednesdays and Saturdays, when we have our field days in the dispensary, and have a larger number of cases from the villages, at times amounting to 130 in a single day, both divisions are employed in

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assisting me in prescribing, compounding and dispensing. On these days I have special opportunity for clinical instruction. I am now giving the class notes in Anatomy and the Practice of Medicine. My Head Assistant, Mr. R. P. Vathakunnu, has the class for two hours four days in the week, and I spend four hours each week with them, in addition to the special times of clinical instruction. Besides daily practice in the compounding room, the students have also certain duties each day in connection with the case of the in-patients in the hospital.

7. I desire to record my sincere gratitude for the continued and great aid I have received for another year from Government through the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle, and the Dindigul Municipality. I have in another report, prepared especially for our Mission, returned my sincere thanks for these gifts and those from my friends among the Civilians and Native residents of Dindigul. The District Munsif and his Court Officers and attenders have continued their monthly donations through the year.

8. I have again occasion to note my great satisfaction with the work of my Head Assistant, R. P. Vathakunnu Pillai, 1st-Class Hospital Assistant. He and all the Dispensary Assistants have merited my entire approval.

DINDIGUL,
1st April 1875.

(Signed) E. CHESTER, M.D.,
Medical Officer, Dindigul Dispensary.

No. 269. ORDER THEREON, 29th May 1876, No. 966.

The following statement compares the estimate and actuals of receipts and expenditure in the Dindigul Municipality for 1874-75:—

RECEIPTS.			CHARGES.		
	1874-75.	1874-75.		1874-75.	1874-75.
	RS.	RS.		RS.	RS.
Balance brought forward ...	200	3,588	GRANT I.		
Assignments by Government...	100	59	New Works—		
Rates on Houses ...	1,500	1,549	Communications ...		862
Taxes on Vehicles ...	650	721	Sanitary and Miscella-		755
Registration of Carts ...	400	467	neous ...		
Tolls ...	5,500	6,075	Repairs—		
Fees ...	200	76	Communications ...	400	402
Fines ...	150	128	Sanitary and Miscella-		379
Miscellaneous... ..	1,065	1,229	neous ...		
Recoveries		10	Contribution to Local Funds	2,750	
			GRANT II.		
			Results Grants ...	1,000	582
			Contribution to Local Funds.	230	315
			GRANT III.		
			Hospitals ...	580	613
			Vaccination ...	140	152
			Registration of Births & Deaths.	120	120
			Conservancy ...	2,740	2,346
			GRANT IV.		
			Lighting ...	635	1,239
			Markets ...	210	196
			Travellers' Bungalows ...		57
			Avenues, &c. ...		90
			GRANT V.		
			Supervision and Management	730	1,201
			Advances recoverable ...		41
			Refunds ...		28
			Balances ...	230	4,524
Total ...	9,765	13,902	Total ...	9,765	13,902

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2. The working of the Act seems to have been satisfactory and beneficial to the inhabitants, but calls for no special remarks from Government.
 3. The sanction requested in para. 3 of the President's letter is unnecessary.
- (True Extract)

(True Extract.)

H. J. Hudson
Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Madura.
 „ Board of Revenue.

- „ 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, Madura District.

187538.
Revenue Dept. B. & C.

Govt. of 118761 ST. ALBANS.

FINANCIAL.

To
THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Melbourne.
Esq.,
Esq.,
Esq.

Date: May, 1876.

Issued

2076

Recd.

June 23rd

Ind.

G.O., 29th May 1876, No. 366.

MAY.
Nos. 268-269.

En. 1876

Municipal—Report.—The annual report on the
working of the Municipal Municipality for 1874-75,
reviewed.

2076
20.14.85

21.6.76

24th June 1876