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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1775	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	26-7-1876	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Municipal—Report.

No. 183. Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Coimbatore, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Coimbatore, 28th April 1876, No. 8:—

With reference to paragraph 10, Proceedings, Madras Government, dated 3rd December 1875, and Order, No. 2365, and in continuation thereof Proceedings, Madras Government, 26th February 1876, No. 409, the information as to progress is shown in the comparative statement of expenditure under each major head, and in reference to paragraph 11 of the first-quoted Order, I have the honor to add remarks regarding the personal interest taken in the details of the local administration.

2. *New Works.*—The sanitation of the town requiring additional latrines, those on the approved Coimbatore pattern being somewhat expensive, and funds being limited, it occurred to me that a cheaper latrine having all the advantages of the established pattern might be introduced, and I consequently had five additional ones made. The flooring, partitions, and dimensions are all according to the former pattern, but the roofs, instead of being of heavy timber and tile work, and the walls of pukka brick, have been made of cocoanut leaf and tarred bamboo hurdles, respectively. The cost of the latrine has thereby been reduced from Rupees 255 to Rupees 80.

3. There is equal decency and efficiency with a leaf roof, &c., as with a tiled one, and the annual repair is only a trifle. All the trench or camp latrines, which are suitable for villages where fresh sites can be procured, are in this populous town being replaced by the new cheap latrine, where the total removal of the night soil is effected.

4. The hospital is now as complete as can be. It has every requisite and can furnish thirty-three beds while the in-patients have never exceeded an average of 10·92.

5. The street and road repairs have been economically and efficiently conducted. Fourteen and a quarter miles are kept up at an expense of Rupees 2,571 annually.

6. GRANT II—*Education.*—The usual allotment has been made. There are 862 children under elementary education, to part of whom as recommended result grants have been given, while schools for the neglected classes are under consideration.

7. GRANT III—*Sanitary and Medical Services.*—There is nothing to improve about the hospital. Vaccination has been fairly successful.

8. *Registration of Births and Deaths.*—I noted in my last report that a birth rate of 19·63 per mille, and a death-rate of 9 per mille, pointed to inefficient registry; the law was more widely made known throughout the town by weekly beat of tom-tom. There is a *vis inertiae* in India which taxes the energy of the most zealous reformer; there is no difficulty in entering occurrences in a register; the difficulty is to get those whose duty it is to report occurrences to do so. Besides incessant proclamation, some cases of wilful default have been prosecuted.

9. Among the lowest classes there are those scarcely elevated above the life of animals, who live from hand-to-mouth, who require to be elevated, and for whom Result Grant Schools exist in vain. When these are reached by education better registration may be looked for.

10. *Conservancy.*—The usual establishment has been made more efficient by an economy of labor, instead of all the rubbish being carted out of town; it is reduced to ashes, and the night soil deodorized thereby. The efficiency of the cart service has thereby been doubled.

11. The water supply attracted great attention. For some months the drought was so great that wells never known before to be dry became empty, and the people depending thereon were put to great straits for even drinking-water. Hundreds might be seen crowding the wells.

12. The distress was so great that, in anticipation of a loan for that purpose, wells were at once deepened and fresh springs tapped; while, to lessen the pressure, new wells were opened. There had been almost an entire failure of the south west rain, and even the north-east of October and November did not suffice to raise the water-level. The result of deepening the wells, however, was satisfactory.

13. *GRANT IV—Miscellaneous Municipal Purposes.*—The lighting was increased by thirty additional lamps, while an economy of oil was effected.

14. An improvement was made to the meat-market by the construction of an offal-shed; the water-cistern and flushing of the meat-market with a copious supply of water reduce to a minimum nuisances arising from the exposure of a large supply of meat.

15. The Municipal public bungalow was improved by a pukka-tiled veranda thrown out in front, and by the addition of a shed for bullocks, and by new furniture added to the accommodation.

16. For the support of the young avenue trees a water-cistern was constructed by which the water-carts could be at once filled. The water is raised by the new machinery.

COMPARATIVE Statement showing the Actual Receipts and Expenditure for 1874-75, and the Budget Estimates and Actual Receipts and Expenditure for 1875-76.

Receipts.	Actuals for 1874-75.	Budget for 1875-76.	Actuals for 1875-76.	Expenditure.	Actuals for 1874-75.	Budget for 1875-76.	Actuals for 1875-76.
Balance brought forward.	RS. 381	RS. 300	RS. 717	GRANT I.—PUBLIC WORKS.	RS. 747	RS. 200	RS. 68
Assignment by Government.	...	...	...	<i>New Works.</i>	...	...	...
Rates on Houses and Lands,	...	...	...	Communications ...	...	...	...
at 7½ per cent. ...	...	...	...	Sanitary and Mis.	...	...	...
Tax on Vehicles, &c. ...	...	...	...	<i>Repairs.</i>	...	...	...
Registration Fees for Carts.	...	...	...	Communications ...	...	...	...
Tolls ...	...	...	...	Sanitary and Mis.	...	...	...
Fees ...	...	...	...	Other items ...	...	...	...
Mines ...	...	...	...	GRANT II.	...	...	...
Endowments, &c. ...	...	...	...	Results Grants	...	...	...
Contribution from Local	...	...	...	Educational Inspectorate.	...	...	...
Funds ...	...	...	...	GRANT III.	...	...	...
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	Hospitals and Dispensaries	...	...	...
Loans from Government	...	...	...	Vaccination ...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	Registration of Births and	...	...	...
	...	...	...	Deaths ...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	Conservancy ...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	GRANT IV.	...	...	...
	...	...	...	Lighting ...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	GRANT V.	...	...	...
	...	...	...	Supervision and Manage-	...	...	...
	...	...	...	ment ...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	Advances Recoverable	...	...	...
	...	...	...	Refunds other than current	...	...	...
	...	...	...	Taxes ...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	Balance ...	...	...	...
Total ...	37,200	29,423	45,190	Total ...	37,200	29,423	45,190

(Signed) A. WEDDERBURN, President.

COMPTROLLER, 28th April 1876.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
21st June 1876. No. 1136.

District or Place in which levied.	Population of Place.	Description and Object of Tax.	Classes from and Property upon which levied.	Number of Taxpayers.	Amount of Tax.	INCIDENCE OF TAX.		Act or Order under which and date from which levied.
						Per Head of Population.	Per Head of Taxpayers.	
					RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.		Act III of 1871.
Coimbatore Town.	36,201	1. Rates on houses and buildings, at $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	On houses and buildings ...	4,960	9,245 11 3	0 4 1	1 13 10	
		2. Rates on lands, at $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	On lands ...	228	719 1 4	0 0 4	3 2 6	
		3. Taxes on Arts, &c.	Four-wheeled carriage on springs drawn by two horses,					
		4. Taxes on carriages, horses, &c.	Four-wheeled carriage drawn by one horse, &c.,					
			Two-wheeled carriage on springs drawn by one horse, poney, &c.,	482	1,520 12 0	0 0 8	3 2 6	
			Poney, thirteen hands, Do. eleven hands, Bullocks, Asses, Common Carts ...	397	1,584 0 0	0 0 8	3 15 10	
		5. Fees on the registration of carts.	Pothanore ...					
		6. Tolls at seven Gates.	Pullapollim ...					
			Tadakund ...					
			Mettapollim ...		8,600 0 0	0 3 10		
			Settimungalum ...					
			Avenashy ...					
			Trichinopoly ...					

(Signed) A. WEDDERBURN,
President.

COIMBATORE,
28th April 1876.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
21st June 1876. No. 1136.

From J. BASHIAKARLU, Naidu, Vice-President of the Municipal Commission, Coimbatore, to A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Coimbatore, dated Coimbatore, 23rd April 1876, No. 9.

I have the honor to forward, for submission to Government, the annual report of the Coimbatore Municipality for the year 1875-76.

2. The total receipts during the year was Rupees 33,001, and the expenditure Rupees 31,272, leaving a balance of Rupees 1,729 in our favor.

3. The comparative statement which accompanies the report will show the actual receipts under the different heads as compared with the previous year, as well as the increase or decrease in receipts and expenditure over the Budget Estimate for the year under report.

4. GRANT I—Public Works—New Works.—Under this head a sum of Rupees 104-6-6 was expended in opening a road for the convenience of the residents in the Pariah quarter of the town, and for constructing a culvert to improve the drainage in the Big Bazaar Street.

5. Sanitary and Miscellaneous—New Works.—Under this head a sum of Rupees 1,420 or Rupees 316 in excess of the Budget Estimate was expended principally in the construction of cinerators, a tiled veranda, and thatched bullock-shed at the travellers' bungalow, five new latrines, a tiled offal-shed in the meat-market, a tiled veranda around the European ward, and two cisterns—one for the deadhouse, and the other for the European ward.

6. Repairs—Communications.—The expenditure under this head was Rupees 2,571, or Rupees 329 below the Budget Estimate. The whole of the roads in town were kept in thorough repair, and several roads hitherto unmetalled were metalled.

7. Repairs—Sanitary and Miscellaneous.—Rupees 1,611 or Rupees 111 in excess of the Budget Estimate were expended under this head. The whole of the latrines were kept in thorough repair, and tarred several times during the year. The hospital, market, slaughter-house, travellers' bungalow, and Lungerkhana were kept in sanitary condition, and an asphalted pathway, three feet wide, was made in the market-blocks. The increase under this item is owing to purchase of coal tar for fumigating purposes during the late outbreak of cholera.

8. Other Items.—Under this head a sum of Rupees 857, or Rupees 145 in excess of the Budget Estimate is shown. This increase is owing to the purchase of tools, &c.

9. GRANT II—Educational.—The whole of the results grant certificates submitted for payment were paid, and amounted to Rupees 806-8-0, or Rupees 193-8-0 below the Budget Estimate.

10. The sum of Rupees 100, contribution to Local Funds for Educational Inspectorate, was paid.

11. GRANT III—Hospitals.—Under this head a sum of Rupees 4,692 was expended for the following purposes:—

	RS.
Establishment ...	2,287
Medicines and Supplies ...	1,374
Diet of Patients ...	561
Sundries and Contingencies ...	770
	4,692

or Rupees 318 below the Budget Estimate. This decrease is but nominal, as the bedding, &c., was supplied at the close of the last official year, and consequently was not required during the year under report.

12. Vaccination.—This item calls for no remark.

13. Registration.—Under this head will be found a decrease of Rupees 110, owing to the services of one of the Registrars being dispensed with.

14. GRANT III—Conservancy.—The Budget allotment for this item was Rupees 8,426, and the expenditure Rupees 10,701, or Rupees 2,275 in excess. This is owing to the purchase of eight young bullocks to replace a similar number that have become too old for their work; for the deepening of wells and tanks to procure drinking-water for the people who suffered very much

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during the year; and for the new items of purchase of chloride of lime, sulphur, wood, and disinfecting powder, for use and distribution to the inhabitants during the late outbreak of cholera.

15. GRANT IV.—*Lighting*.—The amount expended for lighting and contingencies was Rupees 1,325, or Rupees 475 less than was budgeted for; this decrease is owing to the cheap rate at which kerosene oil was purchased.

16. *Other Miscellaneous Purposes*.—This head comprises the items of market establishment and contingencies, lungerkhana, travellers' bungalow, upkeep of avenues, &c., and cost Rupees 3,526, or Rupees 275 in excess.

17. GRANT V.—*Supervision and Management*.—The excess expenditure over Budget allotment under this head was Rupees 246.

18. *Loans*.—During the year under report the Municipality borrowed from Government Rupees 2,000, out of a loan of Rupees 4,000 sanctioned by Government in G.O., dated 28th January 1876, No. 195, for deepening old and sinking new wells. The loan of Rupees 5,000, sanctioned in 1874-75 for remunerative works under G.O., dated the 16th December 1874, No. 2114, was received out of Rupees 10,000 of the Hospital Endowment Fund, and the balance, Rupees 5,000 of that endowment, has been reinvested in Government promissory notes.

19. The subjoined figures show the result of vaccination and registration and births and deaths during the year:—

Vaccination, 1875-76—Successful, 1,328; Unsuccessful, 226; Unknown, 86: Total, 1,640.
*Registration of Births and Deaths, 1875-76—Births 892; Deaths 667.**

20. The report of the Municipal Dispensary is herewith forwarded.

21. Agreeably to G.O., No. 822, of the 12th June 1873, a return showing the incidence of the various rates and taxes is attached.

22. The audit report of Mr. W. E. Shepherd, of the Firm of Messrs. Stanes and Co., accompanies this report.

EXTRACTS from the ANNUAL REPORT of the CIVIL DISPENSARY, COIMBATORE, for the Year 1875-76.

	In-patients.	Out-patients.
Remained 31st March 1875	6	35
Admitted since	330	8,708
Discharged	266	8,654
Died	49	40
Remaining 31st March 1876	21	49

"The last official year has not differed in the general weather from other years to any marked extent, and certainly no outcry for the want of the great fertilizing agent—rain—has been raised; nor would such a cry appear likely, as on the whole, more rain by 3.15 inches has fallen in excess of that of the previous twelve months. If we go into the distribution of the rain, however, we find that there were times when more would have been welcome, viz., during the usual south-west monsoon months little comparatively falling then; while in October the unusual supply of 11.26 inches was gauged. The amount of ozone in the atmosphere, supposed by many to be of such importance during epidemics, could not be ascertained, because no papers were supplied to the Observer from the headquarters office.

"The general condition of the population, both in the district and town, seems to have been fairly prosperous, the price of cereals not having advanced beyond the ordinary rates of late years. The general health too, which is usually pretty well gauged by the Dispensary returns, was not bad, but, on the contrary, most diseases diminished in frequency, but a perfect pestilence of cholera attacked the district, and no taluk or village seems to have quite escaped its visitation.

"The sanitation of the town of Coimbatore was described in the report on cholera recently submitted. In that report it was stated that the greatest obstacle to a high state of health was

* Of these 219 are reported to have died from cholera.

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the existence of cesspits in most of the houses, which invited contamination of the neighboring wells. A house-to-house inquiry into this matter is now being made beginning at the old Fort, and no doubt much benefit will result therefrom."

Extract from special Cholera Report, dated 1st January 1876.

"Whatever the most scrupulous attention to the removal of excreta and street-sweepings, sweeping of side drains, whitewashing of houses, regulation of bandy-pettah, and latrines, which in Coimbatore are acknowledged to be models of what such buildings ought to be, could be done, has been by the Civil authorities, the President of the Municipality being the most prominent sanitarist of all, but still there is much intervening between the state of Coimbatore town and perfect sanitation. The uniform level of the street drains only admits of a flow of cleansing water during the rarely-recurring heavy rain. The supply of water by well-sinking is only now being carried out to an extent which promises abundance and that from a recently accorded Government loan; as above noted all possible efforts are made to make the town clean and keep it so.

"The lying-in ward has been inaugurated for some time now, and the number treated since the opening has been ninety-one. The first midwife was an old woman of the Pariah caste. She was very efficient in the performance of her duties, and as most of her patients had no caste, she quite obtained their suffrages, mixing freely with them in the town both before and after their accouchments. It was however thought that the fact of this woman being a Pariah was a let to her attending caste people in the town, and therefore last November a Mussulman woman Russul Bee was obtained. She however has not been fortunate in attracting women to use the ward of which she is in charge, the cases of labor having decreased since she has been here from eight to three as compared with the same months of the previous year. Sufficient time may not yet have been given to see whether castewomen may not employ Russul Bee, and as nearly all other entries in the Hospital returns have decreased during what may be called the cholera year 1875, the same retarding causes may have been at work in the lying-in ward."

(Signed) W. F. DAVIS, M.D., F.R.C.S.,
Surgeon-Major.

No. 184. ORDER THEREON, 21st June 1876, No. 1136.

The President submits the Administration Report of the Coimbatore Municipality for the year 1875-76, with an abstract of the receipts and charges for the year as compared with the Budget Estimates and with the actuals of 1874-75.

2. The aggregate receipts amounted to Rupees 45,190, but of this amount Rupees 12,000 consisted of loans from Government and of appropriation from the Capital endowment of the Dispensary. Deducting this amount, as well as the opening balance, Rupees 718, the income of the year was Rupees 32,472 against an estimate of Rupees 29,423, the actuals of the preceding year being Rupees 30,200. The increase is spread over almost all the heads of receipts, but the causes which contributed to it in each case have not been stated. This should be attended to in future. In Statement I, Loans from Government have been erroneously entered under "Advances recoverable" instead of as a separate head.

3. Under Grant I the expenditure amounted to Rupees 6,565 or Rupees 149 in excess of the Budget allotment. It is reported that the roads were maintained in thorough order, and that five new latrines were constructed. The change made in the method of building these latrines, retaining the previous pattern, appears to be at once economical and an improvement as to convenience. The cost has been reduced from Rupees 255 to Rupees 80. In the column headed "Amount of Estimate" in Statement II-A the estimated outlay for the year is entered instead of

the estimated cost of each project. The attention of the President is drawn to paragraph 5, G.O., dated 11th February 1875, No. 289, in which this mistake was once before pointed out.

4. The Educational expenditure is short of the allotment by Rupees 193, and bears the ratio of 2.9 per cent. to the total Municipal charges. Eight hundred and sixty-two children, or only about 16 per cent. of the total number of children of school-going age, are reported to have been under instruction. The Vice-President states that proposals for schools for the neglected classes are under consideration, and the Governor in Council trusts that a fair share of the Municipal income will be assigned to Education. If funds cannot be obtained by reducing the allotments for other charges, the question of imposing the Profession-tax in the ensuing year had better be considered. The President should report on this before the submission of the next Budget.

5. The Conservancy arrangements were as usual eminently satisfactory. The Government also note with pleasure that the efforts of the Commissioners in the direction of opening new wells under a Government loan have mitigated the distress caused by the unusual scarcity of drinking-water. Vaccination is reported to have been fairly successful; the number of operations performed being 1,640 against 1,411 in the year preceding. The public health suffered much from an outbreak of cholera; the report on the working of the Dispensary shows however a decrease in the number of in and out patients of 69 and 1,831, respectively, and this is attributed to the comparative absence of the more usual diseases.

6. The remarks of the President have been perused with interest by the Government.

7. In filling up the form prescribed in G.O., dated 12th June 1873, No. 822, Presidents of Municipalities are requested to show in column 3 any exemptions of classes which may obtain, and the amount of rates in the case of each item, whether full schedule rates or otherwise. It will be convenient if the same brief information is added in the first column on the Receipts side in the comparative statement submitted with each report.

(True Extract.)

W. H. C.
Chief Secretary

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Coimbatore.

.. 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, Coimbatore.

To all Presidents of Municipal Commissions, paragraph 7 of Order.

Exd. J. Wright.

1.30/3
Recd: 1876, 24/1
Bdgt. of 1876: 11,000 Rs.

FINANCIAL.

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

Dated June, 21st.

Issued 24/1
Recd. 26/1

Recd.

G.O., 21st June 1876, No. 1136.

JUNE.
Nos. 183-184.

Municipal-Report.—The Annual Report on
the working of the Coimbatore Municipality for
1875-76, reviewed.

24/1
Recd.

26/1

26/1