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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1819	Press
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Municipal—Report.

No. 90. Read the following letter from G. McWATTERS, Esq., Vice-President of the Caroor Municipality, to A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., President of the Caroor Municipality, dated Coimbatore, 26th April 1876, No. 47:—

I have the honor to submit the Annual Report on the working of the Caroor Municipality for 1875-76.

2. Including the opening balance the total receipts for the year amounted to Rupees 10,637-9-2, or a little more than Rupees 200 over the original and supplemental estimates. Only a few heads require remarks. The small sums entered under Assignments by Government (*a* and *b*) represent the receipts on account of Ferries and Pounds for 1874-75, and under Ferry-rents Rupees 130 or thereabouts are still due for that year. In fact, nothing has been received for the year under review, the payments, as a rule, being made after the close of the official year. The sum of Rupees 72 entered as the Government contribution towards the pay of the Hospital Apprentice is also for the last five months of 1874-75, when the former system of payments was in force. Government contributions for this purpose are not shown now in the municipal books. The house-tax was carefully revised and realized Rupees 400 or so more than the estimate.

3. The expenditure came to Rupees 10,100-11-0 against the budget estimates of Rupees 10,307, leaving a balance of Rupees 530-14-2. Under New Works, Sanitary and Miscellaneous, Rupees 2,595 were spent, the allotments being Rs 1,920, and under Repairs, Communications and Sanitary and Miscellaneous, Rupees 1,154 were expended against budget estimates aggregating Rupees 1,510. Unanticipated receipts and savings and the prevalence of cholera caused greater attention than usual to be paid to sanitation in every form. The cost of medicines, too, on account of sickness was Rupees 644 instead of Rupees 400. The toll establishment entertained during 1874-75 was paid for the month of March 1875 in the following April, hence the entry under (*d*), Grant V-2.

4. Regarding the progress of the Municipality during the year, which was very considerable, the principal works carried out will be found in Statement II-A, Detail. Four pukka latrines (two single and one double) were constructed after the plan in use in the Coimbatore Municipality, each being provided with a cinerator for burning the combustible street rubbish. The estimate sanctioned for latrines was Rupees 1,500, but the Commissioners saved enough out of this to construct a slaughter-house. Hitherto animals were slaughtered in a most objectionable place in the bed of the Amravathi River very near to, and just above, where the people obtain drinking water. There still remained about Rupees 1,200 towards the end of the year, and the Commissioners spent about Rupees 700 of this in commencing a new market and bandy-pettah. Both a market and a pettah are very much required. At present the market is held under the avenue trees on the Coimbatore road and is unprovided with water or any conveniences whatever, and baridies halt in backyards in unsuitable parts of the town, which it was found very difficult to keep clean during the prevalence of cholera. These two works are, in an especial manner, appreciated by the people.

in regard to other improvements, it may be noted that all the streets are now in good order, well lighted, and supplied with dust-boxes at convenient places. The towns are swept daily, and the rubbish is removed once a day or oftener to the nearest incinerators to be consumed and used in the latrines. Altogether vast improvements have been made in the town in every direction and are readily manifest to those acquainted with what Caroor was before the Towns' Improvement Act was extended to it.

5. *Vaccination.*—The number of persons vaccinated was only eighty-three, out of which thirty-two were children under one year. The return is not satisfactory, and yet I do not consider that the taluq vaccinator, who also works within the Municipality, is to blame. The taluq of Caroor is perhaps the first in the district for successful and progressive vaccination, attributable, in great part, to the co-operation of the Tahsildar and village officials. The late Tahsildar of Caroor blames the apathy and unwillingness of the people, especially the Chetty caste, who hide their children when the vaccinator is in the town. But, although some parents may have thrown obstacles in the way of vaccination in the Municipality, there is no real reason why the municipal return should compare so unfavorably with the taluq return. The Commissioners have now directed their attention especially to the subject. I am of opinion myself that it was chiefly cholera that hindered vaccination as it did other works during the year.

6. The number of deaths reported was 259 and the number of births 289.

7. The dispensary continues to improve. The number of in-patients was 11 against 4 in 1874-75, and the number of out-patients realized 7112 against 6828 the previous year. The deaths were much more than usual, but this, I believe, was owing to cholera.

8. The accounts have been audited by Mr. Shepherd and found correct. Mr. Shepherd takes exception to voucher No. 191, amounting to Rupees 428-3-9, for building the slaughter-house, on which is an endorsement of three Commissioners to the effect that "payment is sanctioned in anticipation of approval by the Commissioners." Mr. Shepherd thinks that this voucher is not complete, inasmuch as it does not appear to have been laid before a general meeting for sanction, or signed by the Vice-President. I observe that the money was sanctioned and paid hurriedly on the last day of the official year with the evident intention of showing the expenditure in the year's accounts. Formal sanction at a meeting would have prevented this. The signature of the Vice-President was not required and in other respects the payment was correct.

9. The special return called for by Government in G.O., dated 3rd December 1875, No. 2865, is herewith forwarded.

No. 35.

Forwarded to Government.

2. The President would observe with satisfaction the zeal and interest taken by the Vice-President and Commissioners in this new Municipality. It cannot be doubted that with the provision of proper sanitary measures the health of the people will be greatly improved.

3. To those interested in the subject new ideas occur in the economy and efficiency of conservancy, and the attention of the Vice-President has been requested to the new more economical, but equally efficient, town latrines introduced into Coimbatore.

4. The only difficulty in introducing improvements is money, and when three latrines of the cheap kind can be built for the price of one of the original there is a three-fold power given to conservancy.

5. As regards vaccination, the objection that natives of the mercantile class have to it is not confined to Caroor. The President has seen it in other districts, and the reason why the vaccination was not so successful in the town may have arisen from the objections held by this class. The Vice-President does not state on what pattern the new slaughter-house, so hurriedly sanctioned, has been, or is intended to be, built. That at Coimbatore, designed by Colonel Farewell, is an excellent model.

COIMBATORE,
11th May 1876.

(Signed) A. WEDDERBURN,
President.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
12th June 1876. No. 1059.

INCIDENCE of the various Rates and Taxes in the Municipality of Caroor for 1875-76.

District and Place in which levied.	Population.	Description and Object of Tax.	Classes from and Property upon which levied.	Number of Tax-payers.	Amount of Tax.	INCIDENCE OF TAX.		Act or Order under which and date from which levied.
						Per Head of Population.	Per Head of Taxpayers.	
1		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Coimbatore District, Caroor Town.	7,945	1. Rates on Houses and Buildings, at 6 per cent.	...	1,761	RS. A. P. 2,402 9 7	RS. A. P. 0 4 10	RS. A. P. 1 5 10	
		2. Taxes on Vehicles, &c.	...	521	486 0 0	0 1 0	0 14 11	
		3. Fees on Registration of Carts.	...	289	578 0 0	0 1 2	2 0 0	
		4. Tolls at half rates	...	2,571	3,468 9 7	0 7 0	1 3 8	
				...	4,514 5 6	...	...	

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
12th June 1876. No. 1059.

No. 91. ORDER THEREON, 12th June 1876, No. 1059.

The annexed abstract shows the receipts and charges of the Caroor Municipality for 1875-76 as compared with the actuals for 1874-75 and the sanctioned estimates for 1875-76. The Act was not in force during the whole of 1874-75, but from the data given for the months figures for an imaginary year have been constructed :—

RECEIPTS.

	Calculated from Actuals, 1874-75.	Estimates, 1875-76.	Actuals, 1875-76.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Balance brought forward	...	776	776
Assignments by Government	...	692	193
Rates on Houses	2,506	2,000	2,403
Taxes on Vehicles	459	400	486
Registration of Carts	632	600	578
Tolls	4,895	4,500	4,514
Fees	50	100	75
Fines	190	50	190
Endowments, &c.	...	143	113
Contribution from Local Funds	...	700	700
Miscellaneous	...	...	110
Advances Recoverable	...	500	500
Total	8,732	10,461	10,638

CHARGES.

	Actuals, 1874-75.	Estimates, 1875-76.	Actuals, 1875-76.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
GRANT I.			
New Works—			
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	303	1,920	2,697
Repairs—			
Communications	...	1,000	1,070
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	1,202	510	85
Tools and Plant	...	30	11
GRANT II.			
Results Grants	...	500	229
Contribution to Local Funds for Educational Inspection	...	50	50
GRANT III.			
Hospitals and Dispensaries	1,095	1,342	1,605
Vaccination	48	50	50
Registration of Births and Deaths	67	84	84
Conservancy	1,462	3,020	2,593
GRANT IV.			
Lighting	182	820	678
Choultries	33	60	59
Travellers' Bungalow	...	...	18
Miscellaneous	...	30	3
GRANT V.			
Supervision and Management	1,279	891	869
Advances Recoverable	1,200	...	...
Balances	1,861	154	537
Total	8,732	10,461	10,638

2. The aggregate receipts exceeded the sanctioned estimate by Rupees 177 and the calculated actuals for twelve months in 1874-75 by Rupees 1,906, but in 1874-75 there was no opening balance and no assignments by Government or contributions by the Local Fund Board. The variations between the estimates and actuals under Receipts for 1875-76 are small and unimportant except in the case of the house-tax, in which there was an increase of Rupees 403 owing to the revision by the Commissioners of the house valuation. The Demand, Collection, and Balance statement is satisfactory, the whole demand on account of the house-tax, excepting a very small portion struck off as irrecoverable, having been collected. It is observed that nearly one-half of the income is derived from Tolls, and Caroor being a Railway station it may safely be assumed that much of this is a tax on through traffic. No contribution is made to the Local Fund from this income, but the Municipality being still in its infancy the Government will not insist on this point.

3. The total expenditure amounted to Rupees 10,101, or Rupees 206 below the estimate, the expenditure for twelve months in 1874-75, calculated in the manner above shown, being Rupees 6,871. The charges under the several sub-heads were within the allotments, excepting New Works and Hospitals. The construction of a special slaughter-house became necessary, as the existing practice of slaughtering in the bed of the river was held to affect the supply of drinking water. A cart-stand and market were begun. The outbreak of cholera and consequent increase in demand for medicines led to the increased charges for Hospital. The roads in the town were kept in good order, and four new latrines on the Coimbatore plan were set up.

4. The Commissioners appear to have done very little on account of Education. Out of the small allotment for this purpose of Rupees 550, nearly 50 per cent. remained unexpended, and neither the Vice-President in his report nor the President in his remarks has alluded to the subject. The Governor in Council desires that the measures taken by the Commissioners for promoting education may form a prominent feature of future reports. A special report must now be furnished for 1875-76.

5. The dispensary continues to work satisfactorily, the number of in and out-patients having increased from 4 and 6828 to 11 and 7112, respectively. The report of the Medical Officer on the working of the dispensary should be at once forwarded.

6. Vaccination shows poor results, and this is attributed to the apathy of the people. As the municipal vaccination compares unfavorably with that of the rest of the taluq in which it is placed, and as the work in both is entrusted to one man, the cause of the difference between the results in the two cases is probably to be referred principally to the nature of his personal operations. The Government observe that Rupees 50 is contributed annually by the Municipality to the Local Fund Board on account of vaccination.

7. The zeal which continues to be displayed in the conduct of this Municipality is very satisfactory. The President should however bear in mind, with

reference to his remarks on the report, that he is himself ultimately responsible for the working of the institution.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Coimbatore.

- .. Revenue Department.
- .. Board of Revenue.
- .. Public Works Department.
- .. Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
- .. Sanitary Commissioner.
- .. Director of Public Instruction.
- .. Accountant.
- .. President of the Local Fund Board, Coimbatore District.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

43052 V
Revenue 1875

Govt. of 1876

FINANCIAL.

To
THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION.

Secy,
Comptroller,
etc.

Dated, June, 12th.

1877

Recd.

July 29/76

G.O. No. 1876, No. 1059.

Am. June

JUNE.

Nos. 90-91.

Municipal—Report.—The Annual Report on
the working of the Corporation for
1876-77, reviewed.

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28 August 1876