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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

KEY DEPARTMENT

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

B.R.G.

Municipal—Reports.

No. 17. *Read letter from H. W. BLISS, Esq., Acting President of the Municipal Commissions, Madura, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madura, 19th August 1876, No. 74.*

I have the honor to submit the report of the Municipal Commissioners of Dindigul on the working of the Towns' Improvement Act for 1875-76 together with the prescribed statements and the reports of the Auditor and the officer in charge of the dispensary maintained in the town. The statement called for in G.O., No. 409, dated 26th February 1876, is also submitted.

2. The following is an abstract of the actual receipts and expenditure of the year compared with the budget estimate and the actuals of the preceding year:—

3. RECEIPTS.—The opening balance of the year under report exceeded the budget estimate by about the same sum as the total receipts have increased by.

4. Under Tolls there was a decrease of Rupees 1,355 as compared with the receipts of 1874-75 and of Rupees 280 as compared with the budget. This is owing to the opening of the South Indian Railway, which has much reduced the amount of cart traffic between Caroor and Dindigul and between Dindigul and Madura. It is partly attributable also to the fact that the bids for the tolls in the preceding year being unprecedently high the contractors lost money. Hence, of course, the current year's bidding fell.

5. Under the head of *increase of Rupees 128* when compared with the budget. This is due to the inclusion under this head of petty fees collected from the merchants resorting to the usual weekly fair held within municipal limits for the use of the raised and covered platforms recently erected by the Commissioners to shelter vendors and their wares from the sun and rain. The Commissioners have in this way rendered the market more attractive both to buyers and sellers. Much has also been done to preserve order among the crowds who assemble. To the Rev. Mr. Chester, the Vice-President, is due the credit for these improvements.

6. Other items of receipts vary but slightly from the estimate and appear to call for no special remarks.

7. EXPENDITURE.—The total expenditure of the year was greater than that of the previous year and than the budget estimate by Rupees 3,050 and Rupees 1,308, respectively.

8. GRANT I.—Under New Works there was an increase of Rupees 2,536 as compared with the expenditure of 1874-75 and of Rupees 1,853 as compared with the budget. This is due to increased expenditure on some of the works entered in the budget and to the construction of other works not therein provided for. Rupees 614 have been spent on the construction of raised and covered platforms for the convenience of the vendors at the weekly fair held within municipal limits and on the erection of a water pandal for the comfort of the villagers who resort to the place on market days in considerable numbers. A suitable Municipal office was built at a cost of Rupees 1,203, being Rupees 403 in excess of the budget allotment.

9. The expenditure under Repairs shows a decrease of Rupees 510 as compared with the budget, the principal items of expense being the maintenance of roads and the cleansing of tanks and wells.

10. While generally very well satisfied with the way in which the affairs of the Municipality have been administered, I am bound to say that I am of opinion that Repairs have been somewhat sacrificed to New Works, some of which might have stood over without serious inconvenience. I took an opportunity, some months ago, of placing my views before the Vice-President and the Commissioners and was assured by them that the importance of keeping old works in an efficient state before beginning new ones would not be lost sight of in future.

11. GRANT II.—There is a considerable falling off in the expenditure on primary education. I cannot account for it. It is due to no restrictive action of the Commissioners.

12. GRANT III.—Under Grant III there are no material variations in expenditure calling for notice. A sufficient conservancy establishment is maintained and the town is kept very fairly clean for an Indian one.

13. A full report on the working of the dispensary is enclosed. The Rev. E. Chester, who is in charge of it, takes great interest in the institution of which he is the founder and spares no pains to maintain its efficiency and popularity.

14. Vaccination results are decidedly good. Of the subjects treated many, of course, are not residents but come from neighbouring villages.

15. Taking the present population at 13,000, which is probably under the mark, the births and deaths registered were at about the rates of 28.7 and 20.8 per 1,000, respectively. These results are probably a very close approximation to absolute accuracy. Of the 270 deaths 35 were from cholera. But there was no cholera epidemic in the town. The deaths were principally those of strangers passing through or who resorted to the town for medical treatment.

16. GRANT IV.—Under Grant IV the only noticeable variation is in the expenditure under Lighting. Rupees 557 were laid out in the purchase of new lamp-posts and lamps, which, of course, led to the purchase of a larger supply of kerosene-oil than was estimated for. No branch of municipal expenditure is more appreciated by the people than this.

17. GRANT V.—Grant V, Miscellaneous, includes Rupees 202 spent on furnishing the new Municipal office and Rupees 149 paid as compensation for land taken up for the purpose of widening certain lanes and streets.

18. Other items of expenditure call for no particular remarks beyond what are contained in the Commissioners' report.

19. Of the whole, I consider the administration of the Municipality during the year has been good and such as to reflect great credit on the Rev. E. Chester, who is good enough to discharge the duties of Vice-President. It is a subject of congratulation to me that in both the Municipalities in the district this responsible posts filled by a non-official.

REPORT on the WORKING of the TOWNS' IMPROVEMENT ACT (III of 1871) in the TOWN of DINDIGUL for the Year 1875-76.

The opening balance at the commencement of the year was Rupees 4,523-9-4; the actual receipts of the year including the balance were Rupees 13,584-1-6; the total expenditure was Rupees 12,427-15-3 and the balance in hand at the end of the year Rupees 1,156-2-3.

2. RECEIPTS—STATEMENT No. 1.—House-tax.—The collection under this head including arrears amounted to Rupees 1,605-3-10, a little more than last year. The outstanding balance is in course of collection.

3. Tax on Vehicles, &c.—The current revenue under this head was Rupees 688-4-0.

4. Registration of Carts.—The receipts from this source have been Rupees 381, a little less than the previous year.

5. Tolls.—Collections from tolls amounted to Rupees 4,720, being Rupees 1,355 less than last year. There are two things to be said in regard to this decrease. The bids for the tolls last year were higher than in any previous year. There were a large number of bidders and much competition, but it is said that the contractors for half of the year lost on their contract. The opening of the South Indian Railway through the district has also reduced very considerably the amount of bandy traffic between Caroor and Dindigul and between Dindigul and Madura.

6. Miscellaneous.—The receipts under this head were Rupees 1,453-5-4, being Rupees 224-1-4 more than last year.

7. DISBURSEMENTS—STATEMENT No. 2.—GRANT I.—Public Works, New Works.—Rupees 230 have been spent on a road running from north to south through the compound of the Travellers' Bungalow but not in any way to the inconvenience of the occupants of the bungalow. It leads from the main road to a new road opened last year, which runs directly to the Railway station, and it will tend to increase considerably the value of property south of the compounds of the Travellers' Bungalow and old Mess House.

Rupees 320-6-5 have been spent in the opening of a new road running due south from the Railway station to the weekly market ground at Nahalnaickenpatti. This road, by affording a passage to the market for all the villages to the north and north-east of Dindigul, will tend to lessen the blocking up of the narrow main road leading through Nahalnaickenpatti to the weekly market ground. This new road has been pulled on either side by a well.

Rupees 496 have been spent in making a road from Gopalsamuteram, one of the tanks in Dindigul for drinking-water, to the Police station. This pathway has for years been merely a water-course and used in parts as a latrine. The lane has been widened, the roadway raised and most of it rivetted, and already some first-class houses are being built on the side of it.

The new Municipal office, which has been built at a total cost of Rupees 1,203, has now been occupied for some months, and proves very well adapted for the purpose for which it was constructed. There is a main room for the meetings of the Commissioners, and which the Bench Magistrates have been allowed to use twice each week in the trial of their cases, and a record-room and room for the clerks.

Rupees 614-7-10 have been spent in improvements at the weekly market ground consisting of additional raised platforms and covered platforms. As the average weekly receipts are now Rupees 15 we will be able to continue these improvements and provide better accommodation for both cattle and sheep without drawing upon the ordinary municipal receipts. The general order on market day has improved, and new arrangements have been carried out for the comfort of the village people coming to the market. A water pandal has been established and the expense paid for out of the market receipts. The charge made for a bazaar space on the raised platform is but a trifle—4 Pies on a covered platform and 2 Pies on an uncovered one. The trees which have been newly planted at this market-place are doing very well.

8. Repairs.—The principal items of expense have been for the maintenance of streets and roads within the municipal limits. The total amount of expenditure is Rupees 615-11-10.

9. GRANT II.—Education.—(a.) The expenditure under this head has amounted to Rupees 678-7-5, of which sum Rupees 135-15-5 were for the cost of Educational Inspectorate.

(b.) Of a total of Rupees 542-8-0 paid for results grant, Rupees 60 were paid to a Hindustani school, during the first six months of 1875-76, under the combined system of salary and results grants. Payments to this were discontinued from the close of August 1875, it being ascertained that the school was not at all likely to secure an adequate grant on the results system.

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(c.) Though the total number of scholars under instruction, as shown by the statistical table following, is smaller than last year, yet the work of education within the limits of the Municipality has been progressing very favorably. In addition to the attendance at the Government Taluq School, which in no way appears in our table, there is a large middle-class school for boys connected with the American Mission and also a large Hindu girls' school, both of which receive their grants by the results system from Provincial Funds and thus cannot appear in our statistical table already referred to.

(d.) The following is the summary of the educational work for the year under consideration :—

Town.	Number of Schools examined.	Standard.	Number of Pupils examined.	Number passed in Reading.	Number passed in Writing.	Number passed in Arithmetic.	Number passed in Grammar.	Number passed in Geography.	REMARKS.
Dindigul.	7	1st ... 2nd ... 3rd ... 4th ...	89 63 18 7	71 51 7 6	76 55 9 7	60 49		 8 2	Tamil. English.

10. GRANT III—*Dispensation*.—The estimate under this head was Rupees 3,700 and the expenditure Rupees 3,426-7-3. Of this sum Rupees 455 was granted to the Dindigul Dispensary for establishment, bazaar medicine, dieting pauper patients, and contingencies, and Rupees 110-14-11 for medicine from the Medical Stores.

11. The Annual Report of the Dindigul Dispensary for the year under review together with the financial statement will accompany this report.

12. *Vaccination*.—The total number of successful cases of vaccination has been 1595, of which number 205 were of children under 1 year of age. This is 310 cases more than the total reported last year.

13. *Registration of Births and Deaths*.—There were registered during the year under report 373 births and 270 deaths, of which 35 were by cholera. But included in this number of deaths by cholera were a number of cases of travellers who came in to the town with the disease only to die here. As reference is made in the Annual Report of the Dindigul Dispensary to the efforts made in the town to check the increase of cholera cases no further remark is deemed necessary.

14. *Conservancy*.—The establishment maintained is given in detail in Statement II-B, varying but little from last year. The work has been performed in a satisfactory manner and has been spoken of in a very favorable manner by many of the Civilians from other districts visiting Dindigul, including the Deputy Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, Southern Division.

15. GRANT IV—*Miscellaneous*.—Out of the total expenditure of Rupees 1,899-11-7, which includes the pay of the necessary establishment for lighting the town, for the municipal and weekly markets, dawk bungalow, and for watering avenue trees, the largest item has been for the purchase of new iron lamp-posts and lamps complete, amounting with expenses from Madras to Rupees 557-11-0. This has also required the purchase of a larger amount of keros ene-oil than either year before. But the more lamps we place in the town the more satisfaction do we hear expressed by the people and the more demands do we have for a still more general lighting of the town.

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16. GRANT V—*Supervision and Management*.—In a total expenditure under this head of Rupees 1,270-6-6, Rupees 149-2-0 were paid for compensation for land purchased for the purpose of widening certain lanes and streets.

17. STATEMENT II-A.—The particulars in connexion with this statement have already been given.

18. Nothing has been done during the year towards supplying the town with a good supply of drinking-water from the simple fact that the District Engineer has not been able to secure the services of a suitable person to take the levels and survey necessary to enable a reliable estimate to be made for supplying the town from the Kohdavan River. Another plan has been proposed for securing water for the town, but as the majority of the Commissioners favor the former plan we must at least be able to ascertain what will be its approximate cost.

19. This survey will be undertaken, under the direction of the District Engineer, at the first opportunity possible.

20. The building in the town of new houses of a more permanent and costly character than formerly, alluded to in our last report, still continues.

21. The report of the Auditor of the Municipal Accounts for 1875-76 together with the Annual Report and financial statement of the Dindigul Dispensary are herewith appended.

(Signed) E. CHESTER,
DINDIGUL,
31st July 1876.
Vice-President.

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INCIDENCE of the various RATES and TAXES in the MUNICIPALITY of DINDIGUL for 1875-76.

District or Place in which levied.	Population of Place.	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 Hd of Tax-pers.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Dindigul Town, Madura District.	12,806	1. Rates on Houses and Buildings at 5 per cent.	From Europeans, Hindus, and Mahomedans, upon houses, shops, and buildings attached to art-stand, &c.	1,225	Rs. 1,600	Rs. A. P. 0 1 11	Rs. P. 1 10	Under Act III of 1871. From the 1st April 1875.
		2. Rates on Lands at 5 per cent.	Do.	...	...	...	...	...
		3. Tax on Arts and Professions.	Do.	...	...	...	...	...
		4. Taxes on Carriages, Horses, &c., at the full rate.	From Europeans, Hindus, and Mahomedans, upon carriages, horses, &c.	604	633	0 0 9	1 9	...
		5. Fees on the Registration of Carts at half the maximum rate.	From Europeans, Hindus, and Mahomedans, on carts without springs.	379	379	0 0 5	1 0	...
		6. Tolls at half the Schedule maximum rates.	From Europeans, Hindus, and Mahomedans.	...	4,720	0 5 10	...	...

DINDIGUL,
31st July 1876.

(Signed) E. CHESTER,
Vice-President.

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REPORT of the DINDIGUL DISPENSARY for 1875-76 (from April 1st 1875 to March 31st 1876).

Total of newly-registered cases is	7,833
Aggregate attendance of old and new cases	14,778
Number of villages from which patients have come	531
Subscriptions and donations of native friends	Rs. A. P. 150 4 5
Amount received in Dispensary	28 7 0
Medicines sold at the Dispensary	2 3 0
Subscriptions and donations from friends among the Civilians	659 0 0

Of the newly-registered cases 2998 were medical, 4154 surgical, 496 both medical and surgical, and 175 were cases of vaccination. Of these cases 142 were Europeans, 34 East Indians, 1730 Native Christians, 697 Mahomedans, and 5230 Hindus. There have been 231 in-patients.

Of the newly-registered cases there were under 6 years of age 875 males and 699 females; from 6 to 21 years of age there were 1070 males and 899 females; above 21 years of age there were 2855 males and 1435 females.

For another year the Dindigul Dispensary has had the privilege of receiving, through the kind sanction of Government, the same assistance as last year from the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle, and the Dindigul Municipality. For this very kind assistance, and the equally kind gifts from friends among the Civilians in the district and native residents of Dindigul, I desire to note my gratitude and return my sincere thanks.

Two events have marked this year in the history of our dispensary while going on with our general work very much formation of the Madura Local Fund Board's Medical School in connexion with the Dindigul Dispensary.

We were for months busily engaged in making and distributing cholera medicine. Every case in the town of Dindigul reported at the dispensary was attended personally by the First Assistant or one of the medical students of the first class, they taking turns in performing this duty. We supplied medicine freely to all who came to the dispensary reporting cases in their own villages. We sent medicine to more than 900 distinct cases residing in 162 different villages, but to how many more cases than these our medicine was actually given it is impossible to say. In judging of how many doses of liquid medicine we needed to send or how many of our cholera pills, we asked from the messenger the number of cases of which he had positive knowledge. We have also supplied medicines from our dispensary to most of the vaccinators working in the Dindigul Circle, and to all the dressers sent on special cholera duty in the circle.

We have made up more than 24,000 cholera pills. These have been a modification of Paterson's pills omitting the calomel, retaining the opium and considerably increasing the amount of extract of Aconite. These same pills were also distributed through the Mission Dispensary at Madura to a great many persons in the villages in the Madura Circle, and the testimony from all the Missionaries and from more than seventy-five of our most intelligent catechists, who freely gave up their time in looking after the sick and dying in their villages, was that in using them they have all of them had a very remarkable proportion of success.

We have also used in our dispensary practice for cholera a mixture composed of equal parts of tinct. opium, tinct. ginger, tinct. capsicum, and spirits of camphor. "Rubini's mixture" or saturated camphor has also been used.

Great credit is due to R. P. Vathakannu Pillai, First-class Hospital Assistant, each of the compounders in the dispensary, and all the medical students of the Mission Medical Class, for

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their cheerful and unwearied efforts in looking after the sick, during this outbreak of cholera, and in assisting in the preparation of medicine, large quantities having often to be sent out at short notice. I am happy also to be able to give a good account of their general dispensary work for the whole year under record.

The Mission Medical Class has continued with little change since the last report was made, going on with the same general subjects of study and working between hours in the compounding-school of the dispensary. The students were to what will be the middle class of the Madura Local Fund Board's Medical School, of which I am about to speak. With the new class, which will be admitted in September, this class will become the senior and the present junior class the middle.

In the month of November a beginning was made of the Madura Local Fund Board's Medical School under my general superintendence aided by Assistant Apothecary E. B. Theobald, a graduate of the Madras Medical College. This will be in connexion with the Dindigul Dispensary and hospital. Ten students are sanctioned this year at a stipend of 5 Rupees per mensem, which will be increased to 6 Rupees in their second and 7 Rupees in their third and last year. A new class will be admitted each year, and the number will be limited to thirty. The stipends of the students will be paid by the Local Fund Boards. A competitive examination for admittance to the school will be held each year in the presence of the Superintendent and Deputy Inspector of Schools of each circle, of which due notice will be given in the Madura Gazette. The students will be drawn, as nearly as possible, in the proportion of four from the Dindigul and six from the Madura Circles. The object of this Medical School will be to furnish the young men who join it so good a knowledge of the treatment of the ordinary diseases of the country and such ability to perform all minor operations that they may earn a good living either as assistants in Local Fund Dispensaries or in private practice in the long before the young men, after completing their education, will be established in

connexion with all our Local Fund Boards, and the large array of ignorant and crafty doctors, who kill and maim more, by their mercury and heathen diet, than all they cure, be replaced by reliable and honest practitioners.

The two native Christian women with Government diplomas to practice as trained midwives—one of them having charge of the Lying-in Hospital, and the other working in the villages—have together had a total of 139 cases. They have also both of them brought many cases to my notice among native women requiring special advice and treatment. They are gladly received to the houses of all castes and conditions among the natives, and doubtless no small part of the good they accomplished among the native women is in persuading them to have less and less to do with native medicines and treatment.

The space required in this report for the two special points already noted has been so great that I must pass, for this time, many items of decided interest in our work. It has been a matter of no little satisfaction and encouragement to me to find how kindly the people, not only of the town of Dindigul, but of the surrounding villages, continue to speak of the Dindigul Dispensary. It is our one great effort to have the people of the whole district appreciate the advantages of a thorough faithful European practice and the kindness and care bestowed upon them in a well-organized dispensary.

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

No. 18. ORDER HEREON, 3rd November 1876, No. 1956.

With the above letter the President submits the report of the Dindigul Municipality for the year 1875-76. An abstract of the receipts and charges as compared

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with the Budget Estimates and with the actuals of the preceding year is given below:—

RECEIPTS.			
	Actuals, 1874-75.	Estimates, 1875-76.	Actuals, 1875-76.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Balance brought forward	3,588	4,000	4,524
Assignments by Government	59	100	49
Rates on Houses	1,549	1,500	1,605
Taxes on Vehicles	721	600	688
Registration of Carts	467	400	381
Tolls	6,075	5,000	4,720
Fees	76	110	107
Fines	128	100	57
Miscellaneous	1,429	1,140	1,453
Advances Recoverable	10	...	...
Total	13,902	12,950	13,584
CHARGES.			
	Actuals, 1874-75.	Estimates, 1875-76.	Actuals, 1875-76.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
GRANT I.			
New Works—			
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	755	1,000	941
Repairs—			
Communications	402	1,300	838
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	379	300	252
Tools and Plant	...	...	10
GRANT II.			
Results Grants	582	1,000	542
Contribution to Local Funds for Educational Inspection	315	400	136
GRANT III.			
Hospitals and Dispensaries	613	580	566
Vaccination	152	140	177
Registration of Births and Deaths	120	120	120
Conservancy	2,346	2,860	2,564
GRANT IV.			
Lighting	1,239	1,050	1,487
Markets	196	200	231
Avenues, &c.	90	90	122
Travellers' Bungalow	57	60	60
GRANT V.			
Supervision and Management	1,201	820	1,270
Advances Recoverable	41	...	...
Refunds	28	...	...
Balances	4,524	1,830	1,156
Total	13,902	12,950	13,584

2. The aggregate receipts amounted to Rupees 13,584 against an estimate of Rupees 12,950, the actuals for 1874-75 being Rupees 13,902. There was an increase in the opening balance but a decrease under Tolls. Tolls estimated for Rupees 5,000 sold for Rupees 4,720 against Rupees 6,075 in the previous year, the falling off being attributed to the opening of the Railway and to the rent last year having been unprecedently high. The increase under "Miscellaneous" was due to a larger collection of Market fees. The variations under the other heads were small and unimportant. The progress of collections as shown by the Demand, Collection and Balance Statement was satisfactory. Out of a total current and arrears demand of Rupees 1,816 on account of the House-tax only Rupees 185-6-1 remained uncollected at the end of the year.

3. The total charges amounted to Rupees 12,428 or Rupees 1,308 over the estimate and Rupees 3,050 over the actuals of 1874-75. The amounts expended under each of the grants and the approximate percentage which these and the closing balance bore to the total receipts are given below:—

Under the allotment for New Works was exceeded by Rupees 1,853. The excess was caused by increased expenditure on some of the works entered in the Budget and by the construction of others not therein provided for. Several useful works were executed. Three new roads were made and a few tunnels built. An office for the Municipality was constructed at a cost of Rupees 1,203, and a sum of Rupees 614 was appropriated for the construction of raised and covered platforms and a water-pandal at the market. The amount spent on repairs fell short of the grant by Rupees 510. His Grace the Governor in Council agrees with the President in thinking that repairs and maintenance should be attended to before new works are undertaken.

During the year a Medical school was established at Madura from Local Funds in connection with this Dispensary for training Medical practitioners. The sanitary condition of the town is reported to be good, and the registration of births and deaths to be tolerably accurate. There were 35 deaths from cholera, most of which occurred among strangers passing through the town, or who resorted to the town for treatment. The Governor in Council notices with pleasure the attention paid to cholera patients and the general good service rendered by the Hospital staff.

6. Vaccination made good progress, the total number of successful cases being 1,595 against 1,285 in 1874-75. The cost per head was Annas 1-9.

7. The charges for lighting were Rupees 437 in excess of the amount sanctioned. Additional lamp-posts and lamps were purchased.

8. The Governor in Council fully concurs in the President's estimate of the satisfactory working of this Municipality and acknowledges with thanks the zeal shown by the Vice-President in his voluntary work.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

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

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Revenue Dept

V-105097

Oct. of 1876

FINANCIAL.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,

Dec., Dec., Dec.,

24th November, 3rd.

Issued

Recd. 4-22

G.O., 3rd November 1876, No. 1956.

NOVEMBER
Nos. 17-18.

Municipal Reports.—The report on
working of the District Municipality for 1875-76
reviewed.

23/11/83

23 Nov 76