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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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Municipal—Report.

No. 155. Read letter from C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Salem, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Salem, 7th September 1876, No. 127.

I have the honor, herewith, to submit the Annual Report on the working of the Towns Improvement Act III of 1871 in the Municipal Town of Salem during the official year ending 31st March 1876.

2. The number of Commissioners on the 31st March 1875 was nineteen, while that on the 31st March 1876 was twenty-two, the difference being accounted for by the addition to the list of Commissioners of the names of Messrs. T. Pritchard, Subbaraya Mudelliar, and Varadyya Chetty. Mr. Benson, who was also appointed a Commissioner on the 28th December 1875, left the district shortly afterwards and his name therefore ceased to be on the list on the 31st March 1876. During the year under report the Commission sustained loss by the death of M.R.Ry. T. Govinda Row, a non-official member who had been on the Commission from its very commencement, and was one of the most useful of the working members. Govinda Row was succeeded by Cooppusawmy Chetty.

3. The average attendance of Commissioners at the General and Special Meetings held during the year is six as against nine in the preceding year, whilst the number of Meetings in the year under review was twenty as against fourteen in 1874-75.

4. The chief sources of income and objects of expenditure have undergone little or no change as will appear from paragraph 10 *infra*. The actuals of the year under review as compared with the Budget are as follows:—

5. From the above figures it would appear that the actual receipts and expenditure for the year under review exceeded the Budget by Rupees 3,678 and Rupees 7,207, respectively. In other words the actual expenditure during the year exceeded the actual receipts by Rupees 3,529. The balance in the Government Treasury on the 31st March 1876 was *minus* Rupees 929-12-4, which added to the amount borrowed from the Local Funds, Salem Circle, viz., Rupees 2,600, makes up the abovementioned difference of Rupees 3,529. The year 1875-76 may therefore be said to have closed with a deficit balance of Rupees 3,529, which will have to be made good in 1876-77.

6. The increase of Rupees 3,678 under Receipts over and above the Budget Estimate is accounted for in the following way:—

(a). Rupees 1,101 under head 1, *Balance brought forward*, is explained by the fact of the receipts for 1874-75 being larger than was anticipated and expended during that year.

(b). Rupees 1,017 under head 3, *Rates and Taxes*, is owing to the demand and Collections on account of rate on houses having been more than was entered in the Budget for 1875-76, and to the fact of the tolls having realized more than was expected.

(c). Rupees 26 under Fees from travellers halting at the Municipal Public bungalow.

(d). Rupees 1,148 under head 7, *Miscellaneous Receipts*, is composed of a sum of Rupees 636-8-0 and of increases in the amounts received on account of market rents, slaughter-house fees, and cart-stand rents, all of which exceeded the Budget Estimate. The Rupees 636-8-0 is the refund by Government of sums spent by the Commissioners on the Caste Girls' School, Salem, during the past official year 1874-75.

(e). Rupees 1,321 is the amount recovered by adjustment, on completion of works, of advances made from time to time for works while they were in progress.

7. The increases under the five items above quoted make a total of Rupees 4,613, from which will have to be deducted a sum of Rupees 935 being the total of the deficits under the two following heads, viz. :—

(a). *Head 2, Assignments and Allotments by Government, Rupees 701.*—Of this sum Rupees 190 is on account of Road-cess collections within Municipal limits which was disallowed by Government in their Proceedings, No. 63, dated 14th January 1876, as being improper and opposed to the provisions of Act III of 1871; Rupees 250 on account of Government grants-in-aid towards the school building at Shevapett for the Middle-class School at that place which was only sanctioned in G.O., No. 256, of 1st July 1876; and the remainder on account of grants-in-aid of the salaries of the teachers employed in the Salem Caste Girls' School for which provision had been made in the Budget for 1875-76 prior to the school being taken over by Government.

(b). *Fees from Schools, Rupees 234.*—This deficit is due to the decrease under School-fee collections consequent on the transfer of the Caste Girls' School, Salem, to Government and to the falling off in the fees collected in other minor schools which call for no special remark.

8. The excess expenditure of Rupees 7,207 over the Budget amount sanctioned by Government is thus explained. The excess in question is composed of the following items, viz. :—

(a). Rupees 2,838 under Grant I, which is the aggregate of expenditure over the sanctioned estimate under 1, New Works *a* and *c*; 2, Repairs *a* and *c*; and 4, Tools and Plant and Contingencies.

(b). Rupees 4,043 under Grant III, which is the total of the extraordinary expenses not provided in the Budget under 1, Hospitals, and 4, Conservancy, which is explained in paragraphs 26, 29, and 32 of this report.

(c). Rupees 114 under Grant V, which being small needs no special remark.

(d). Rupees 1,461 under Advances made for works referred to in paragraph 6 *supra*.

(e). Rupees 13 under Refunds other than of current taxes which is the amount remitted on appeal to parties from whom they had originally been collected.

9. The five items of increase recorded above in paragraph 8 give a total of Rupees 8,469 over the estimate, and from this total has to be deducted a sum of

Rupees 1,267, being the amount of savings effected under the two heads mentioned below :—

i. GRANT II—*Education, Rupees 1,136.*—This amount is the total of the savings under (1), Establishment of the Middle-class Schools under the management of the Commissioners; (2), under Results grant and Miscellaneous. These variations will be dealt with under remarks on expenditure.

ii. GRANT IV—*Miscellaneous, Municipal purposes.*—Rupees 126, which is effected by savings under minor heads which call for no special remark.

10. The following is a statement comparing the transactions of the year under review with those of the year 1874-75 :—

11. The following observations seem necessary to explain the variations between the accounts of 1874-75 and 1875-76 :—

(a). *Balances brought forward.*—The difference in the balances arises from the same reason as is explained in paragraph 6 *supra*.

(b). *Assignments by Government.*—This decrease is owing to the fact of the Road-cess being disallowed.

(c). The excess collections in 1874-75 under Rates and Taxes is due to the year having begun with a large amount of arrears uncollected.

(d). The falling off under Fees is already explained in clause (b) of paragraph 7 *supra*.

(e). In the year 1874-75 private donations were received for the Municipal Hospital, &c., but none in the year under review.

(f). The difference of Rupees 1,000 (in 1874-75 over 1875-76) is in consequence of the receipts, in the former year, of contributions from the Local Funds, Salem Circle, on account of office accommodation and hospital building.

(g). The excess of Rupees 1,772 over 1874-75 under Miscellaneous Receipts, has also been explained in clause (d) of paragraph 6 *supra*.

(h). The explanations given in paragraph 8 apply more or less to the differences in expenditure between 1874-75 and 1875-76.

GENERAL REMARKS.

RECEIPTS.

12. *Rates on Houses.*—The demand on account of this item of receipt was Rupees 14,046-13-0, of which a sum of Rupees 13,462-4-0 was collected during the year under review; the balance left uncollected on the 31st March 1876, after deducting a remission of Rupees 4-8-0, was Rupees 580-1-0, which corresponded with the total of bills outstanding on that date. The year 1875-76 began with a balance of arrears of previous years uncollected, amounting to Rupees 1,310-2-10. Of this balance, a sum of Rupees 1,256-13-10 was realized during the year under report, and the remainder, Rupees 53-5-0, was struck off at a Special Meeting of the Commissioners held on the 28th March last, as irrecoverable.

13. *Tolls.*—The amount realized by tolls for the year 1875-76 was Rs. 9,950, the whole of which was collected. Under Arrears of tolls there was a sum of Rupees 925 as arrear uncollected of 1872-73, for which a decree had been obtained in favor of the Commissioners who allowed it to remain as an arrear, owing to the

pauperism of the judgment-debtor, the contractor, who they supposed would, in time, inherit some property whereon they could proceed. On further inquiry, however, it appeared the contractor in question was still actually insolvent and that there was no probability of his ever becoming possessed of any property. Considering also that by placing him in the Civil Jail they would only add to their expenditure, they finally resolved, at a General Meeting held on the 22nd August 1876, that the amount in question be written off as irrecoverable.

14. *Amount borrowed from the Local Funds.*—The Commissioners were obliged to incur extraordinary charges on account of the terrible outbreak of cholera during the year 1875-76, and the assets available for other purposes had, in consequence, to be largely appropriated towards the measures adopted for putting down the malady. On one occasion the state of the finances became so much straitened that the Commissioners were unable to pay their Establishment, and in consequence were driven by sheer necessity to apply to the Local Funds for an advance of Rs. 2,600, which they hoped to be able to adjust in 1876-77, on account of the contributions due to them from the Local Funds for that year. This advance was supplemented by that sanctioned in G.O., No. 182, of the 21st January 1876. These advances extricated the Commissioners from their temporary financial difficulty.

15. The variations under the other heads of receipts have either been sufficiently explained already, or are so small as to require no particular mention in this report.

EXPENDITURE

16. *GRANT I.—New Works—(a) Communications.*—The expenditure under this head during the year 1875-76 exceeded the amount allotted in the Budget by Rupees 745-1-9, which is chiefly owing to the construction of drains in those parts of the town which were most affected during the outbreak of cholera. The Commissioners could not have put off the construction of these drains as any delay would only have contributed to the severity of the disease. The wing-wall of the Salem bridge was extended in order to prevent accidents to carriages and carts which pass by the bridge, over which there is a heavy traffic.

17. *GRANT I.—New Works—(b) Educational.*—The amount allotted for the Shevapett Town School Building was not spent during the year, as the Government sanction for the grant towards the same was received only in July 1876. The entry under Educational of Rupees 383-13-9 was for the construction of a School-house in the Comarasawmiputty Division, for the accommodation of the combined system school at that place. The school was formerly located in a pagoda which was inconvenient.

18. *New Works—(c) Sanitary and Miscellaneous.*—In paragraph 27 of the last annual report it was stated that vegetable bazaars were proposed to be constructed in the Shevapett market during 1875-76. But as there appeared to be a doubt of the Commissioners ever recouping, or at any rate deriving an income sufficient at least to cover the interest on the outlay, the Commissioners have postponed the building of the bazaars in question till such time as there may be an absolute necessity for the same. The improvement of the Vellakuttai Channel also, for which provision had been made in the Budget, was put off as the Commissioners had to correspond with the Muttadarnee to whom the channel belongs.

The work, however, has now been taken on hand during the current year 1876-77, and will be pushed on, it is hoped, to early completion.

19. The unappropriated allotments under the above two heads were, however, advantageously availed of for—

(a) the improvement of the Dispensary building in remodelling and asphaltting the in-patient wards;

(b) the construction of compound wall, and laying foundation for the dead-house;

(c) and the completion of the toll-gate buildings, which were reported as commenced at the close of 1874-75.

20. From a reference to Statement II A, Part I, New Works, appended to last annual report, it will be seen that three latrines were left incomplete at the close of that year; these had to be completed in 1875-76. The Commission also constructed three more latrines on the Coimbatore plan in places where the want of latrines was much felt. Later on, during the course of the year, more latrines were required and the Commissioners finding the Coimbatore latrine too expensive, resolved not to build any more latrines in such an expensive style but, instead, built numerous mud-walled enclosures, the walls being coped with turf, which answered the purpose just as well, if not better, and which bear no proportion, when viewed as a point of expenditure, to those on the Coimbatore plan, and these open latrines were more popular with the people. The expenditure under the pukka latrines though unavoidable, appears large.

21. Besides the above there were numerous other petty works executed during 1875-76, which call for no special remark. The Commissioners were also put to the expense of building leaf pavilions to serve as quarantine sheds in the various approaches to the town through which it was expected that cholera would make its entrance. All these only tended as increments to the expenditure, which in consequence largely exceeded the amount sanctioned in the Budget.

22. *Repairs, (a) Communications.*—The excess under this head is very small. Statement II-A, Part II, contains a list of the roads repaired.

23. The sum of Rupees 483-4-5 appearing under *Repairs (c) Sanitary and Miscellaneous*, is for various repairs to latrines, poor-house, markets, slaughter-houses, &c.

24. The excess over Budget under Tools and Plant and Contingencies is owing to the value of and rail charge for tar and tools purchased from Madras, besides many other petty articles purchased from the local market.

25. *GRANT II.—Education.*—The decrease in expenditure under Establishment in the Middle-class Schools is already pointed out as owing to the Caste Girls' School having been transferred to Government before the commencement of the official year now under report, and to a corresponding saving in the way of the salaries of the teachers employed in that school. The remaining difference between the Budget and expenditure under Education is apparent partly from the falling off under Results grants consequent on a parallel increase in the popularity of the town Middle-class and other Combined System Schools in the management and control of the Municipal Commissioners, which, I am happy to state, worked remarkably well, and partly from the amounts set apart for furniture

and reserve not having been available in the same manner and to the same extent that it had been thought of while framing the Budget.

26. GRANT III.—*Sanitation, &c.*—The increase under 1, *Hospitals*, is owing to the derangement of expenditure under the several minor heads on the outbreak of cholera. The number of in and out-patients treated at the Municipal Dispensary during 1875-76 was 205 and 12,225 as against 246 and 9,909, respectively, during 1874-75—a result which is very satisfactory as showing the steady progress in the appreciation of the benefits conferred.

27. GRANT III.—2, *Vaccination*.—The work of the Vaccinators in attending to their legitimate duty was greatly retarded. The two male Vaccinators had been taken away from their work in order to distribute medicines and to attend upon cholera patients during the time that the disease was rife in the town. The number of subjects operated on during the year, therefore, was so low as 1,022, of whom 866 proved successful. The number of children, under one year of age, vaccinated or revaccinated, as the case may be, during the year was 401.

28. GRANT III.—3, *Registration of Births and Deaths*.—The number of cases recorded in Municipal Registers was births 1,602, and deaths 1,969, showing a birth-rate of 32.04 and a death-rate of 39.38 per mille of the population. The increase in the death-rate over that of 1874-75 is attributable to the heavy mortality under cholera, which equals half of the total number of deaths registered (or, 979).

29. GRANT III.—*Conservancy*.—The excess of charges under Establishment is due to the entertainment of additional temporary scavengers, &c., during the cholera outbreak. The Commissioners were also obliged to make a few additional carts for conservancy purposes, which accounts for the excess under cost of carts over the Budget. The bullock carts, whose number the Commissioners had decided upon curtailing, had nevertheless to be continued, as it was thought it would be imprudent to cut short their number at a time when their services were most required, which explains the additional expenditure under Hire of Bullocks and Carts.

30. GRANT III.—*Conservancy*—(d) *Cleansing Tanks and Wells*, Rupees 741-15-4. The inhabitants of the Gojai and Shevapett portion of the town having hitherto been in the habit of using the river water for drinking purposes, the Commissioners spent a sum of Rupees 300 in digging two fresh-water wells on the river bank for these people. Besides cleansing and repairing the various fresh-water wells in the different parts of the town, the Commissioners also dug numerous pot-wells in the river bed to enable the people to draw water from them instead of from the river, the water of which at the time of cholera was considered to be impure and consequently unfit for drinking purposes. The people were also prohibited from washing soiled clothes in the river, and in order to strictly guard the river from pollution, additional watchmen were employed. It will thus be seen that nothing was wanting in the efforts of the Commissioners in keeping the town sufficiently supplied with fresh water.

31. GRANT III.—*Conservancy*—(g) *Compensation for the removal of Huts, &c.*, Rupees 1,814-11-4.—Of this amount, a sum of Rupees 1,460 was laid out in the widening of a narrow street in Shevapett for the purpose of opening a second

entrance to the town from the Sooramungalum Railway Station through Shevapett, already referred to in my letter to Government, No. 152, of 7th January 1876. Of this sum, nearly Rupees 300 has been reimbursed to the Municipal Funds in 1876-77 by the sale of materials and portions of lands purchased. The remainder of the compensation was spent in the removal of a cluster of Pariah huts which were situated in a swamp, (the inhabitants of which suffered very much from cholera) to the new village of Johnstonpett, to which the Pariah huts of Comarasawmipetty were removed in 1873-74 and 1874-75. These people have enjoyed excellent health and almost entire immunity from cholera since their removal to the above place.

32. GRANT III.—5, *Extraordinary Charges*, Rupees 1,326-3-10.—Under this head are included—

(1). The value of tar and firewood purchased for the tar-fires during the prevalence of cholera;

(2). Sulphur and chunam bought for fumigating the infected houses and white-washing the same;

(3). Cart hire paid to Hospital Assistants and Vaccinators engaged in attending cholera patients;

(4). Expenses incurred in interring the dead bodies of unclaimed and indigent persons;

(5). Compensation paid to persons whose clothes (soiled) were burnt in order to prevent the spread of the disease among unclaimed persons;

(6). Supplying the quarantine sheds with the articles of food and clothing necessary for the patients treated there; and, lastly, honorariums paid to subordinate Public Servants (Medical, &c.,) for their courageous and energetic services rendered during that most trying season.

The various measures adopted for checking the progress of the disease have been already reported to Government in letter embodied in G.O., No. 1283, of the 16th October 1875. It only remains for me to add that thenceforwards the disease steadily declined. There were isolated cases reported and in each case the necessary sanitary measures were adopted. The disease did not entirely disappear from the town till after the close of 1875-76. The town is now, perfectly free.

33. The other items under Expenditure have undergone very trifling variations and call for no particular remark.

34. The Auditor's report for the year under review is enclosed, and the suggestions made by the Auditor in paragraphs 8, 12, a, b, c, d and g, and paragraph 13 will be adopted.

35. The following Statements and Reports are enclosed:—

(a). Statements I, I-A, II, II-A, II-B, III, IV-A and B.

(b). Statement of advances made and recovered during 1875-76.

(c). Statement showing the incidence of taxation for 1875-76.

(d). Statement showing the attendance of Commissioners at Meetings held in 1875-76.

(e). Extracts from the Report on the working of the Municipal Dispensary Salem, for 1875-76.

STATEMENT showing the Incidence of the various Rates and Taxes in the Salem Municipal Town during the Official Year 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 head of Tax-payer.	
1	2	3	4	5.	6	7	8	9
		Rate on Houses, at 7½ per cent.	Houses at and above 6 Rs. in rent or 50 Rs. in value.	6800	RS. 14,700	RS. A. P. 0 4 8	RS. A. P. 2 2 7	From 1st Nov. 1876.
		Rate on Lands. Not brought into force this year as it was very difficult to get information as to extent, value, and estimated rental of lands. But arrangements are being made to bring this into force in 1876-77.						
		Tax on Arts.	Proprietors	350	1,763	0 0 7	2 5 7	From 1st Nov. 1866.
		Tax on Vehicles and Animals, full rates.	Do.	500	2,177	0 0 8	4 5 8	From 1st May 1867.
		Fees on Carts Registered, maximum rates.	Outsiders		9,950	...	...	From 1st Nov. 1866.
		Tolls at half maximum rates						

Salem Municipal Town.

50,012

(Signed) C. T. LONGLEY,
President.

SALEM,
7th September 1876.

EXTRACTS from the Annual Report of the Civil Dispensary, Salem, for 1875-76.

	In.	Out.	Total.
Remained 1st March 1875	6	102	108
Admitted	199	12,123	12,322
Total	205	12,225	12,430
Discharged	187	11,512	11,699
Died	8	643	651
Remaining 31st March 1876	16	64	80
Average daily sick	10.67	73.35	84.02

I.

(a). The first crops of the year were fairly good, but about August the second crops, then down, began in many parts of the district, owing to want of rain, to show signs of drooping; this continued through September, but in most places they were revived in a great measure by the October rains; on the whole, however, the outturn was considerably below the average, the taluqs which suffered most being Utengherry and part of Tripatore in the Head Assistant's charge, and Dharampury and Kistnagherry in the Sub-Collectorate. In the Collectorate proper, Salem and Ahtur more especially there were excellent crops.

(b). *Meteorology, &c.*—The accompanying table exhibits at a glance the Meteorological results of the year, the only two points on which I need remark being, 1st, that owing to failure of supply of ozone paper this record had to be omitted; and 2nd, that though the rainfall was in actual quantity up to the average of past years, yet from the way in which it fell, scattered evenly and slightly over the first six months, then a heavy downpour in October, and then practically no more for the next of the year, it did not fill the streams, tanks, and wells, as it should have done. During the next four months the rainfall was more regular, and the quantity of rain collected five fopers, of these three remained but a very short time, and the remaining two, though they admitted the treatment was doing them good, tired of it after a time and returned to their own houses. So far as one can argue from such limited experience, I am bound to say the plan seemed to be attended with success.

(Signed) R. E. PEARSE, Surgeon-Major,
Zillah Surgeon, Salem.

No. 156. ORDER THEREON, 20th November 1876, No. 2078.

The following statement shows the receipts and charges of the Salem Municipality during 1875-76 as compared with the estimates and with the actuals of the preceding year:—

	RECEIPTS.		
	Actuals, 1874-75.	Estimates, 1875-76.	Actuals, 1875-76.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Balance brought forward	1,636	2,000	3,101
Assignments by Government	1,754	2,320	1,619
Rates on Houses	15,533	14,000	14,719
Taxes on Arts	1,067	...	...
Taxes on Vehicles	1,603	1,700	1,763
Registration of Carts	1,878	2,300	2,178
Tolls	9,250	9,500	9,950
Fees	569	500	678
Fines	785	700	429
Endowments, &c.	143	70	96
Contribution from Local Funds	3,600	2,600	2,600
Miscellaneous	4,531	5,200	8,714
Advances Recoverable	609	...	1,321
Total	42,953	40,890	47,168

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
20th November 1876. No. 2078.

subordinate, and not purporting to be a full record of the ravages of the disease, or to include all the cases which have been recorded by the Police, Magisterial, and Revenue Authorities :—

Taluqs.	Locality or Village.	Commenced.	Ceased.	Attacked.	Died.	Per cent.
Namakul	Terumalasamudram	9th July	3rd Sept.	10	8	...
	Veeramapolliem	12th "	26th July	41	8	...
	Yemapully	23rd "	28th "	8	...	...
	Poojediur	1st Aug.	26th Aug.	24	10	...
	Vayloor	2nd "	28th "	30	9	...
	Angeliur	3rd "	18th "	8	3	...
	Poolandary	3rd "	12th "	83	43	...
				204	81	39.7
Trichengode...	Saragoody	3rd Aug.	12th Aug.	9	7	...
	Karakary	5th "	4th Sept.	17	8	...
	Senkerrydroog	2nd Dec.	2nd April	103	27	...
				129	42	32.56
Salem	Karathampetty	4th Aug.	18th Aug.	43	23	...
	Razipur	8th Oct.	19th Oct.	26	10	...
				69	33	47.82
Vaniembady, Jollarpetti, &c.				100	...	...

GRANT III.

Hospitals and Dispensaries	6,273	6,400	6,591
Vaccination	454	460	448
Registration of Births and Deaths	365	370	359
Conservancy	13,096	13,840	17,995
Reserve	...	280	...

GRANT IV.

Lighting	655	850	634
Markets	300	...	275
Poor-house	577	...	605
Avenues, &c.	368	2,350	349
Travellers' Bungalow	185	...	60
Miscellaneous	421	...	672

GRANT V.

Supervision and Management	2,846	2,830	3,424
Advances Recoverable	537	...	1,461
Refunds	25	...	13
Balances	3,101	...	930
Total	42,953	40,890	47,168

2. The aggregate receipts amounted to Rupees 47,168 against Rupees 40,890 the estimate, and Rupees 42,953 the actuals of 1874-75. The increase is spread over most of the items of revenue, and the causes of the variations are explained. The increase was due among other causes to Rupees 2,600 having been borrowed

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
20th November 1876. No. 2078.

than one-third in Salem proper, I think the results may be held to be very satisfactory in proving alike the efficacy of treatment, and of the adoption of sanitary and general precautions, and also highly creditable to the subordinates employed. Of course sweeping over the entire face of the country as the epidemic has done, hundreds, nay thousands, of cases must have occurred which find no record here; but I think I may confidently say that no town or village of any size has been visited by the disease, without immediate assistance having been sent, whilst the readiness with which such aid is now sought, proves that it must have been largely successful and that the antipathy to European modes of treatment common alike to town and country is steadily and markedly decreasing.

VIII. The following alterations and additions have been made to the buildings during the year under report :—

(a). The contagious diseases ward has been completed by the addition of a (tiled) back-verandah, the two ends of which have been enclosed so as to form a bath-room at one end, and an examining-room at the other. A separate latrine for the use of patients in this ward has also been built.

(b). The floor of the male ward (in-patients) which was much broken up has been laid down afresh and asphalted.

(c). The floor of the female ward has been renewed in square tiles tarred, and the dividing wall transformed into a large arch, whereby the light, space, and ventilation are greatly improved.

(d). The new dead-house, I am sorry to say, is not yet completed owing to failure in certain respects on the part of the contractor; but its completion is now promised at an early date.

(e). A neat little thatched house, somewhat on the plan of an ordinary native house, was, at my request, built by the Municipality for the treatment of lepers on the "Gurjun oil" plan, and, in the district, a few favored places alone excepted.

Monthly Mean of Meteorological Results for the year 1875-76 in the Station of Salem.

Months.	Baro-meter.	THERMOMETER.						WIND.		Ozone.	Clear Sky.	Depth of Rain in Inches.
		Dry.	Wet.	Maxi-mum.	Mini-mum.	Vacua.	Gross.	Direction of Wind.	Velocity.			
April	29.002	89.1	74.1	99.6	74.5	153.7	68.3	S. E. by S.	110	...	62	5.99
May	29.034	85.5	75.1	99.3	75.6	151.9	71.6	S. W. by W.	102	...	47	3.91
June	28.980	86.2	74.7	95.6	74.8	148.2	71.0	S. W. by W.	130	...	36	2.39
July	29.034	84.5	73.6	92.5	73.6	140.2	70.3	S. W.	123	...	30	4.35
August	29.005	84.9	74.0	93.2	73.6	149.1	70.7	S. W.	103	...	31	4.35
September	29.031	85.0	73.3	94.1	74.0	152.5	70.3	S. W. by W.	104	...	30	4.82
October	29.047	81.0	74.6	89.1	72.5	147.5	70.3	S.	64	...	13	14.85
November	29.155	80.5	72.3	88.1	69.6	150.0	65.1	E.	103	...	45	1.00
December	29.169	79.1	69.6	87.1	65.2	149.0	53.5	E. N. E.	126	...	60	...
January	29.141	80.6	66.5	89.5	63.2	150.4	56.9	E.	135	...	69	...
February	29.154	83.8	66.6	94.3	63.0	156.9	56.5	S. E.	137	...	93	...
March	29.096	90.1	73.3	100.9	74.5	157.4	69.8	S. E.	136	...	72	0.90
Means	29.083	84.3	72.2	93.6	71.2	150.6	66.0	S. by E.	114	...	50	42.76

N.B.—Highest temperature recorded 104.0 on the 24th March 1875.
Lowest do. do. 55.7 on the 27th January 1875.
Heaviest Rainfall do. 3.50 on the 17th October 1875.

II.—EPIDEMIC DISEASES.—The epidemic of cholera which had been steadily working up from the south reached this zillah in July, and Salem itself in August; since which time it has raged with varying intensity in all parts of the district, the northern taluqs being those which have suffered least. Annexed is a table which will show generally the course of the epidemic and the work done by the Medical Staff; the numbers referring only to outbreaks treated by one or other

CHARGES.				Actuals, 1874-75.	Estimates, 1875-76.	Actuals, 1875-76.
				RS.	RS.	RS.
GRANT I.						
New Works—						
Communications				1,160	750	1,495
Educational				5	500	393
Sanitary and Miscellaneous... ..				4,571	3,500	5,222
Repairs—						
Communications				2,221	2,500	2,738
Educational				92	100	...
Sanitary and Miscellaneous				620	200	483
Establishment				282	360	313
Tools and Plant				168	200	534
Contributions to Local Funds... ..				499	500	500
Reserve				...	230	...
GRANT II.						
Municipal Schools				2,250	2,450	1,830
Salary Grants				802	1,000	942
Results Grants... ..				613	700	532
Contribution to Local Funds for Educa- tional Inspection				100	20	...
Miscellaneous				367	350	230
CHARGES IN THE DISTRICT.						
Tripatur ...	jacont	19th Aug.	Still going on.	1,549	722	46.61
	Tripatur (Town of) ...	1st Spt. 11th Nov.	5th Sept. 4th Dec.	2 23	1 6	...
				25	7	28
Denkencottah...	Denkencottah	10th Oct.	2nd Dec.	337	179	53.11
Kistnagherry ...	Kistnagherry	12th "	Still continues.	343	139	40.52
Oossoor	Oossoor	31st Dec.	6th Jan.	11	5	45.45
Utengherry...	Singarpett	7th Jan.	23rd "	83	52	...
	Narasimmapetty	14th "	23rd "	24	8	...
				107	60	56.07
Salem	Town	16th Aug.	31st Dec.	2,047	552	...
		13th Jan.	31st March	370	98	...
				2,417	650	26.64

From the above it will be seen that the disease, as might have been expected, entered from the south and gradually spread upwards, reaching last of all the high lands adjacent to the Mysore plateau. Further, that after leaving a place it was very liable to return to it or its immediate vicinity, contrary to the usual practice of such epidemics; and lastly, that the mortality was on the whole below the average, viz., 46.07 per cent. for the district and only 26.64 for the town, where precautionary and repressive measures could be most effectually carried out. On the measures adopted in the town to meet the invasion, and to a lesser degree in the district also, it is not necessary to enlarge again, the matter having been explained in detail in my special report, dated 12th February last. In the town of Salem and in some parts of the district the disease still lingers, for a time disappearing and again reviving, but still viewing the epidemic as a whole, and having regard to the low rate of mortality, viz., less than one half in the country places, and less

from Local Funds to meet the unusual charges on account of cholera treatment. The progress of collection of House-tax was satisfactory. The whole of the arrears demand was got in with the exception of Rupees 53 written off as irrecoverable. Of the current demand, only 4 per cent. was left uncollected at the end of the year. Under the head of Tolls, a sum of Rupees 925 was left standing over from 1872-73, and the Commissioners have since written off the amount as irrecoverable, the contractor against whom the amount was decreed being insolvent. Tolls yielded Rupees 450 more than the estimate and as collected formed 22.5 per cent. of the year's income.

3. The expenditure under different grants amounted to Rupees 48,098, or Rupees 7,208 in excess of the estimate and Rupees 930 in excess of the total receipts. The following figures show the approximate percentage proportion between the total credits of the year and the outlay including advances and refunds, and closing balance:—

	RS.	Percentage.
Grant I	11,678	24.7
" II	3,534	7.5
" III	25,893	53.8
" IV	2,595	5.5
" V	3,424	7.3
Advances and Refunds	1,474	3.1
Balances	— 930	— 1.9

4. The outbreak of cholera had a direct effect on Public Works expenditure, drains, quarantine sheds, and latrines being constructed, and markets and slaughter-houses being repaired, with a view to improving the conservancy. The aggregate expenditure under these heads exceeded the allotment by Rupees 2,838.

5. Out of Rupees 4,670 provided for Education, only Rupees 3,534 were utilized. The saving was due to the Caste Girls' School having been taken over by Government, and to the falling off in the number of Results-grant Schools in consequence of the growing popularity of the middle class and other combined system schools under the charge of the Commissioners. No information has been furnished as to the number of schools and scholars aided by Municipal Funds. Nor has it been stated why no contribution was made to Local Funds on account of Educational inspection.

6. Against an allotment of Rupees 21,350, Rupees 25,393 were expended under Grant III. The town was unusually unhealthy and suffered especially from cholera. Out of 1,969 deaths recorded, 197 were from the latter cause. The special measures undertaken raised the total conservancy charges to Rupees 17,995 against the ordinary Budget grant of Rupees 13,840. The working of the Dispensary was satisfactory. As compared with the previous year, there was a decrease of 41 under in-patients and an increase of 2,316 under out-patients. Vaccination was retarded by the cholera outbreak, the Vaccinators being engaged in distributing medicines and attending cholera patients. The number of vaccinations was 1,022 against 1,978 in the previous year, the number of successful cases being respectively 866 against 1,724 in that year. The large decrease in the "Lighting" charges has not been explained.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
20th November 1876. No. 2078.*

7. The increase under Grant V is accounted for mainly by the new charge of Rupees 480 for carriage allowance to the Vice-President.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Salem District.

- .. Board of Revenue.
- .. Revenue Department.
- .. Public Works Department.
- .. Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
- .. Sanitary Commissioner.
- .. Director of Public Instruction.
- .. Accountant-General.
- .. a resident of the Local Fund Boards, Salem District.

572
Exd. T. O'Connor.

Revenue Sept 25

W/o 5372 ✓

Obt. of 1876 30 notes.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION.

Salem District.

Dec.

50.

60.

Dated November, 20th

Issued 2/12

Recd. 2820/-

paid

G.O., 20th November 1876, No. 2078.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 155-156.

Municipal—Reports.—The annual report of the
Salem Municipality for 1876-76, revised.

1876-77

11 820/76