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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

30th October 1877, No. 2627.

Municipal—Reports.

Read the following paper :—

No. 269. *From W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madura, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madura, 6th August 1877, No. 62.*

I have the honor to submit the report of the Municipal Commissioners of Dindigul on the working of the Towns' Improvement Act for 1876-77 with the statements prepared in the form prescribed in G.O., dated the 25th April 1877, No. 1347, Financial Department, and with the reports of the Auditor and of the Officer in charge of the Dispensary.

2. The receipts of the year amount to Rupees 9,265 against Rupees 9,060 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rupees 205. This is the result of increased collections under "Taxes on Vehicles and Animals," and under "Licenses, Fees, Fines, &c.," and a decrease of Rupees 600 under Tolls. The accounts of the Commissioners show receipt of Rupees 7,888 only, owing to the exclusion of the amount of contributions to local funds out of toll collections.

3. There is a decrease of Rupees 3,653 under expenditure due to the very small sum spent on new works with reference to available funds.

4. The working of this Municipality is satisfactory, and its educational wants are well cared for. The affairs of the town are well managed by the Vice-President, the Rev. E. Chester, of the American Mission, who grudges no amount of labor.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

REPORT on the Working of the Towns' Improvement Act (III of 1871) in the Town of Dindigul for the Year 1876-77.

The opening balance at the commencement of the year was Rupees 1,156-2-3. The actual receipts of the year, including the balance, were Rupees 10,421-3-8. The total expenditure was Rupees 10,152-1-0 and the balance in hand, at the end of the year, Rupees 269-2-8.

2. RECEIPTS—STATEMENT I—*House-tax*.—The collection under this head, including the arrears, amounted to Rupees 1,636-4-8, almost the same as last year. Though a number of new houses have been constructed, and many enlarged and improved, paying a higher tax, the total receipts are but little larger than last year, from the fact that the famine, commencing in the last half of the year, has made it very difficult to make collections from the poorer classes among the tax-payers.

3. *Tax on Vehicles, &c.*—The revenue under this head was Rupees 905-6-6, being Rs. 217 more than last year, owing to the tax on ploughing bullocks imposed for the first time during the current year.

4. *Registration of Carts*.—The receipts from this source have been Rupees 384, a trifle more than in the previous year.

5. *Tolls*.—Collections from tolls amounted to Rupees 4,130, of which Rupees 1,376-10-8 have been contributed to the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle, by order of Government. It was very hard to spare so large a sum which we so much needed for the improvement of our roads within the Municipal limits, but we were glad the proportion to be handed over was no larger.

The total amount received for tolls was Rupees 600, less than the previous year; but the bids at the semi-annual auctions were dependent upon the actual receipts of the previous six months. The contractors know better now just what difference the opening of the railway to Tuticorin is making in the general traffic.

6. *Miscellaneous*.—The receipts under this head were Rupees 1,363-5-5, being Rupees 410 more than last year. The increase is due chiefly to the amount of fees collected at the weekly market. But all the income thus far derived from this source has been exclusively devoted to the improvement of the market ground as will be noted under this head in the item of expenditure.

7. *DISBURSEMENTS—STATEMENT II—GRANT I—Public Works, New Works*.—In a total of Rupees 894-1-8 under this head, Rupees 282-8-0 were expended in raised platforms, covered platforms, and other necessary works at the weekly market ground. These improvements have been thoroughly appreciated by the people, and the receipts are increasing. Further improvements are in progress, and estimates have been already made out for two latrines, a wall with tile coping for a sheep enclosure, and two wells. Rupees 178 were expended for a Surveyor and necessary Lascars to take the levels between Dindigul and Ahtoor under the direction of the Range Officer, Department of Public Works, in connection with the project for supplying Dindigul with drinking water. Rupees 74 were expended in digging one new well and putting a parapet wall and platform to this and one other well. The new well is in the principal pacherri of Dindigul, where the people have for a long time suffered from the want of good drinking water. The remainder of the amount was employed in building one additional latrine, one stone dust-box, building several small tunnels, and revetting and improving one of the prominent lanes.

8. *Repairs*.—Rupees 360-10-10 were spent in re-revetting and improving Rice Street, one of the principal streets in the Municipality; Rupees 107 for repairs at the weekly market, and Rupees 292 in sundry works, including the deepening of wells and repairing the same, and various petty works. We have tried to make the best use of the money we had in hand, but could have profitably employed double the amount expended in gravelling more of the main roads.

9. *GRANT II—Education*.—The expenditure under this head amounting to Rupees 632-14-2, of which sum Rupees 110-14-2 were for the Educational Inspectorate. Statement of Educational Return, gives a complete list not only of the schools to which the amount of Rupees 520 were given as results grants, but also those within the Municipal limits, both for boys and girls, which, under the educational rules, have received aid from Provincial Funds.

10. The following table gives the result of work in the schools aided from Municipal Funds during the year under review:—

Town.	Number of Schools examined.	Standard.	Number of Pupils presented for Examination.	Number passed in Reading.	Number passed in Writing.	Number passed in Arithmetic.	Number passed in Grammar.	Number passed in Geography.	Remarks.
Dindigul.	8	I	75	57	54	61	..	..	English. Tamil.
		II	86	64	71	56	..	..	
		III	28	5	6	14	4	3	
		IV	3	2	2	1	..	4	

11. *GRANT III—Sanitation*.—The estimate under this head was Rupees 3,620, and the actual expenditure Rupees 3,394-13-11. Of this sum Rupees 2,484-7-6 was for Conservancy Establishment, cost of conservancy carts, &c. The usual grant was made to the Dindigul Dispensary towards cost of establishment and supply of medicine. The annual report of the dispensary and financial statement will accompany this report.

12. *Vaccination*.—The total number of successful cases of vaccination has been 1,640, of which number 228 were of persons under one year of age. This is a slight increase upon last year's work. The work of the Municipal Vaccinator has been tested in various ways, and is, on the whole, very creditable to him. Many children are vaccinated at the weekly market from villages in various parts of the district; and it is known by the people that both at this place and at the dispensary on Wednesdays and Saturdays they are sure of finding the Vaccinator.

13. *Registration of Births and Deaths*.—The total number of births registered during the year under report was 387 and of deaths 247. Of the deaths 14 were from cholera, and of this number 7 were cases of travellers who came into the town with the disease upon them.

14. *Conservancy*.—The establishment maintained is given in detail in Statement II-B, and varies but little from last year.

15. *GRANT IV—Miscellaneous*.—Out of a total expenditure of Rupees 1,326-10-4, which includes the pay of the necessary establishment for lighting the town, for the Municipal and weekly markets, dawk bungalow, and for watering avenues, Rupees 587-6-6 were paid for oil for the street lamps.

16. *GRANT V—Supervision and Management*.—The total expenditure under this head amounted to Rupees 1,319-13-0, being for establishment and contingencies of Head Office and collection, and miscellaneous items as for printing, furniture for office, law expense, &c. Rupees 53-4-0 were for famine batta paid to employees of the Municipality receiving Rupees 5 or less a month for the months of February and March. We have reason to fear that this item will be much larger in the next year.

17. The survey already alluded to in the report giving us the levels from Dindigul to the Kodavan river as far back as Ahtoor has convinced us of the general feasibility of bringing water from that river at a distance of between six and seven miles from Dindigul and storing it in a reservoir between the rock and the road running to Pulney in the locality marked out by Colonel Fischer, late District Engineer of Madura.

18. The matter of compensation for land taken up, and an estimate of the entire cost of the proposed work, will be made out as soon as possible.

19. The report of the Auditor of the Municipal Accounts for 1876-77, together with the Annual Report and Financial Statement of the Dindigul Dispensary, are herewith appended.

DINDIGUL,
31st July 1877.

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

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

REPORT of the Dindigul Dispensary for 1876-77 (from 1st April 1876 to 31st March 1877).

Total of newly-registered cases	9,110
Aggregate attendance of old and new cases	18,511
Number of villages from which patients have come	589
Subscriptions and donations of Native friends	Rs. 154 4 0
Amount received in dispensary charity box	„ 13 12 6
Subscriptions and donations from friends among the civilians	„ 693 0 0

Of the newly-registered cases 3,570 were medical, 4,136 surgical, 1,189 both medical and surgical, and 215 were cases of vaccination.

Of the new cases 150 were Europeans, 64 were East Indians, 2,200 Native Christians, 727 Mahomedans, and 5,969 Hindus. There have been 167 in-patients.

Of the new cases there were under six years of age 1,013 males and 739 females, from six to twenty-one years of age there were 1,395 males and 1,006 females, above twenty-one years of age there were 3,232 males and 1,725 females.

These figures show an increase over last year of 1,277 newly-registered cases and 3,733 in the total of old and new cases.

Our dispensary work varies very little from year to year, and beyond the record of the various diseases treated, and the operations performed, which appear in the usual forms accompanying the annual report, there seems little now to be said.

Cholera has been prevalent, here and there, through the district during the whole period under review, so that we have not felt it safe at any time to be without a good supply of cholera medicine; and our rule has been, as in all previous years, to give not only for individual cases reported to us, but to the Natangars or headmen of any villages where cholera was raging, where they came to the dispensary for medicine, and promised to look after the giving out of the medicine.

Many cases of recovery have been reported to us. We have continued to use a modification of Paterson's pills, increasing slightly the amount of acetate of lead, omitting the calomel, and retaining the opium. Drachm doses of sulphur combined with a little pulverized charcoal have been used as an adult dose in cases of puffiness of the abdomen after the purging has stopped. Creosote mixture has generally stopped or decidedly modified the vomiting.

But the type of cholera varies very much in different years and in different places, and no one medicine or prescription will be found always equally serviceable. The catechists and teachers connected with the Dindigul, Pulney, and Battlegunda stations, to whom cholera medicine has been freely given, have done faithful service in looking after cholera cases at and near the villages where they reside.

We have had more cases of capital operations than in any previous year, and, with hardly an exception, successful.

The two Native Christian women, with Government diplomas to practise 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 112 cases. The former has had three European cases, of two of which she had the sole charge and gave entire satisfaction. Two instrumental cases were also conducted by her. And of the whole cases noted by these trained Midwives, the success has been most creditable to them.

The Madura Local Fund Board's Medical School connected with the dispensary has been in operation for one and a half years, and in six months more, when a new class of ten will be admitted, the school will have its full complement of thirty students. Two classes, with a total of twenty students, are now under instruction. The classes have been doing well and Assistant Apothecary Mr. O. W. Jones has been most faithful and efficient in his work. Clinical instruction is given regularly at the dispensary, where the students take turns in compounding and dispensing, and also in night and special duty. There is little doubt but that there will be immediate employment for all the young men we can graduate. In fact, there would be for double the number: and I feel sure that they will be able to do good service at once on graduation. The suggestions made by the Deputy Surgeon-General on his tour of inspection, not only in regard to the general work of the dispensary, but of the Medical School, are being acted upon.

I must again commend the faithful services of 1st-Class Hospital Assistant R. P. Vathakunnu Pillai, who has given me, in his work, entire satisfaction.

The compounders and members of the Mission Medical Class have also met my warm approval. Though we have had comparatively few cases of cholera in the town of Dindigul, yet each one of these has been in charge of one of the Assistants, and the amount of extra medicine to be made up for the villages has been by no means a small item of work. The case of each of the patients is taken by one of the senior students in turn, who has special charge of it while remaining in the hospital, and some of the cases have required the most constant attention.

Again, in closing our annual report, we are under renewed obligation to render our sincere thanks to Government, to the Madura Local Fund Boards, and to the Dindigul Municipality for the very kind and generous aid granted to us in carrying on the Dispensary and Medical School. While we do our best to make a wise use of the means placed at our disposal, we feel that it is no small honor to be placed in the direction of so important a charge.

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

No. 270.

ORDER THEREON, 30th October 1877, No. 2627.

The following comparative statement of the Dindigul Municipality shows the actuals of 1875-76 and the estimates and actuals of 1876-77—

RECEIPTS.

	Actuals, 1875-76.	Estimates, 1876-77.	Actuals, 1876-77.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Rates on Houses and Lands	1,605	1,550	1,636
Taxes on Vehicles and Animals	688	550	906
Registration of Carts	381	400	384
Tolls	4,720	2,670	2,753
Licenses	107	120	51
Assignments by Government	49	80	53
Fines and Fees	57	100	1,343
Miscellaneous	1,453	1,670	762
Balance brought forward	4,524	1,880	1,156
Total	13,584	9,120	9,044

CHARGES.

Actuals,
1875-76.
RS.

Estimates,
1876-77.
RS.

Actuals,
1876-77.
RS.

GRANT I.

New Works—

Communications	1,941	540	197
Buildings	..	..	382
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	2,112	830	315

Repairs

Communications	838	700	682
Buildings	..	..	214
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	252	..	293
Tools and Plant	10	30	17

GRANT II.

Results Grants	542	600	520
Inspection (Contribution)	136	250	114

GRANT III.

Hospitals and Dispensaries	566	590	612
Vaccination	177	180	179
Registration of Births and Deaths	120	120	119
Conservancy	2,564	2,730	2,485

GRANT IV.

Lighting	1,487	1,010	818
Markets	231	310	454
Travellers' Bungalow	60	60	58
Avenues and Watering Roads	122	150	150

GRANT V.

Supervision	..	890	1,116
Balances	1,156	130	269

Total .. 13,584 9,120 9,044

2. Notwithstanding considerable variations between the estimates and the actuals under most of the heads of revenue, the total income of the year corresponded very closely with that shown in the estimates. An uncollected balance under House-tax of less than 10 per cent. of the demand is fairly satisfactory considering the unfavorable nature of the season.

3. The expenditure of the year amounted to Rupees 8,775, of which Rupees 2,100 were spent on Public Works including repairs to roads.

4. Excluding the Inspection charge of Rupees 114, the expenditure on Education took the form of Results Grants, amounting to Rupees 520, against an estimate of Rupees 600 and Rupees 542, the actuals of the preceding year. According to Statement V, 574 boys were at school out of a school-going male population of 969. It is observed that, while the attendance of boys at the aided schools fell off from 486 to 443, that of girls rose from 66 to 75 during the year.

5. The outlay on Sanitary and Medical Services was Rupees 3,395, or 37.5 per cent. of the available income. The dispensary maintained its high character for efficiency and usefulness, the total number of persons treated during the year being 18,511 against 14,778 in 1875-76. Referring to the Rev. Mr. Chester's report on the dispensary, the Government note with satisfaction the success attending the working of the Lying-in Hospital and the progress made by the Madura Local Fund Board's Medical School. The results of vaccination show a slight advance over last year, the number of persons successfully treated being 1,640 against 1,595 in 1875-76 and the cost rather under one anna and nine pies per case. The conservancy and lighting of the town appear to have been managed with great economy.

6. As regards accounts, the cost of the watch-shed at the market should have been debited to Grant IV instead of Grant V. In Appendix A the number of ex-officio members is stated to be three, while there cannot be more than two under the Act.

7. The Auditor should have submitted a somewhat detailed report and not merely certified the result of his audit.

8. The Governor in Council notices with pleasure the unremitting attention displayed by Dr. Chester in carrying on the work of Vice-President of this Municipality.

(True Extract.)

A. H. H. H.
Under Secy. to Govt.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Dindigul.

Department.

partme

of Revenue.

- „ Accountant-General.
- „ Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
- „ Sanitary Commissioner.
- „ Director of Public Instruction.
- „ President of the Local Fund Boards, Madura District.

Exd. T. D. Ryan and J. W. Fischer.

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Revenue Report

No 4901

Govt. of 1877-78

FINANCIAL

To THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION

By,

Secy,

&c.

Dated October, 30th.

Received of

4 Nov 78

G.O., 30th October 1877, No. 2637.

OCTOBER.

Nos. 263-270.

Municipal Report—Annual Report of District
Municipality for 1876-77 reviewed.

29.6304

Lodged by

8. Nov 78