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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	<u>6443</u>	Press.
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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

20th November 1877, No. 2726.

Municipal-Report.

Read the following papers:—

No. 116. *From A. H. T. MARTINDALE, Esq., Vice-President of the Mettapolliem Municipal Commission, to the President of the Mettapolliem Municipal Commission, Coimbatore, dated Mettapolliem, 6th August 1877, No. 29.*

I have the honor to submit the annual report of this Municipal Commission for 1876-77 as required by Section 34 of the Towns Improvement Act, 1871. The Act came into operation in this town on the 1st December 1876, and the report embraces therefore only the transactions of the last four months of the official year.

2. The report has five enclosures as particularized below.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Statement showing the receipts and expenditure for the period under report submitted under G.O., No. 1347, dated 25th April 1877.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—The Medical Officer's report on the working of the dispensary during

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—The financial statement of the dispensary for the period submitted under G.O., No. 517, dated 30th March 1871.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.—Statement showing the births and deaths within the town.

ENCLOSURE No. 5.—The Auditor's report.

3. There was no balance in hand to start with. The actual receipts for the four months, including the loan of Rupees 300 made by the Local Fund Board before the introduction of the Municipality, and excluding the deposits shown in Statement III which come more properly under the current year's accounts, amounted to Rupees 2,506-15-3, and the total expenditure was Rupees 2,349-0-8, leaving a balance in favor of the Municipality of Rupees 157-14-7.

4. It will be seen that the several items of receipts and expenditure greatly differ from the budget estimates as no fixed data could be had for the items at the time of framing the first budget.

5. I may remark that after the date of the introduction of the Municipality a sum of Rupees 800 was placed at the disposal of the Deputy Tahsildar by the President of the Local Fund Board to be expended upon sanitary improvements deemed necessary within the town at the time. This amount was expended as follows:

	RS.
Erection of five puccah latrines	400
Erection of two fever-sheds	130
Removing and destroying prickly-pear	270
Total ..	800

Besides this a sum of Rupees 52, the balance of the Prince of Wales' Reception Fund referred to in the President's letter, No. 80, of the 14th October 1876, embodied in G.O., No. 2268, of the 12th December 1876, was expended by the consent of the contributors in the purchase of four lamp-posts together with the necessary apparatus for lighting the town.

6. No provision was made in the budget for the period under report for results grants under the head of Education; hence no schools have applied for the grant. Suitable provision has been made for the current year.

7. During the period under report the chuttram and market at Mettapolliem were transferred by Government to the control of the Municipal Commissioners by G.O., No. 575, dated 14th February 1877, Financial Department.

8. The Municipality not having provided anything towards vaccination in its budget for the period under report, the Municipal Commissioners are not in a position to furnish any information upon the subject. The Hospital Assistant in charge of the dispensary reports (*vide* Enclosure 2) that he had vaccinated twenty-six children with success in twenty-four cases, and brings to notice that a Government vaccinator has been doing duty within the town since March last. The Commissioners were not informed of his employment within their limits, nor did they receive any return from him. Suitable provision has been made for vaccination purposes in the budget for the current year.

9. The health of the town cannot be said to be satisfactory. Cholera has been prevalent to a greater or less extent, as also fever, diarrhoea, and dysentery. There is, however, good ground for the belief that the sanitary measures adopted have already done much towards securing a better state of things. Rainfall during the period was very small indeed.

10. The Commissioners are glad to be able to observe that considerable improvements took place in the town during the short time under report. Side drains were dug to all the principal streets within the municipal limits, and the town was lighted by ten lamps (including the four purchased from the balance of the Prince of Wales' Fund above referred to). The removal of the rubbish, prickly-pear, and other noxious vegetation (and its destruction in the cinerators, which is an important sanitary measure. The Hospital Assistant reports that he was engaged in his duties, and many were relieved at the Municipal Dispensary (*vide* Enclosure 2). The town was thoroughly cleaned by the scavenging establishment daily, and the latrines were increased in number until they afforded ample accommodation for the requirements of the population. In the event of creating municipal gardens at a later date it is proposed to utilize the nightsoil as manure. At present it is deodorized by the ashes taken from the cinerators and buried.

11. Notwithstanding the improvements effected, much yet remains to be done towards improving the sanitary condition of the town and in other ways. The Commissioners have endeavoured as far as possible to meet these requirements by their budget estimates for the current year.

MEDICAL REPORT of the Civil Dispensary at Mettapolliem from 1st December 1876 to 31st March 1877.

This dispensary was opened only in the month of December last after the formation of the station into a Municipality and is kept in a very small room in the premises of the Deputy Tahsildar's Outcherry and closely surrounded on all sides, which greatly prevents the free circulation of air and is not at all adapted for the purpose it is intended to serve. The proximity to the Police station and outcherry rather deterring than encouraging the sick to resort to it for relief.

2. I, therefore, most respectfully beg to suggest that a more suitable site and building be either engaged or otherwise got up for the requirements of a dispensary inasmuch as this station being a railway terminus numbers of sick, whether repairing to the hills or the plains passing through for the most part, require medical help, but for want of proper accommodation cannot avail themselves of the benefit. On the suggestion of the President of the Municipal Commission the latrine of the sub-jail has, as a temporary measure, been converted into a female ward, and the construction of another latrine has been ordered and will soon be built. To meet the requirements of in-patients two temporary sheds have been erected in different parts of the town by the Municipality, there being no room adjoining the dispensary for occupation by the sick.

One servant for hospital was employed since the formation of the Municipality.

The following is the general result for the period under report:—

	Europeans.		Natives.	
	In.	Out.	In.	Out.
Remained on 31st March 1876	..	..	..	..
Admitted during the period	..	..	8	36
Total	..	..	8	36
Discharged	..	..	8	24
Died	..	..	..	..
Remaining on 31st March 1877	..	..	5	..
Average daily sick	..	..	1.2	15.1

Vaccination.—Twenty-six children were vaccinated by me during the period under report; of these twenty-four proved successful and two failures; a Government vaccinator had been here doing duty for some weeks in the month of March last.

Sanitation.—There has lately been great improvements in the sanitation of the town. It is swept and kept clean by fifteen sweepers, and three toties are engaged in clearing the trench latrines; five pukka latrines—two for males and three for females—are being built in different parts of the town by the Municipality. The refuse of the whole town is daily removed and burnt in four cinerators built by the Local Fund Board before the introduction of the Municipality, but now much improved by the Commissioners.

Climate.—I regret that I am unable to offer an opinion respecting the climate of this town owing to my short stay in the place. Its natural situation however does not speak much in its favor, and its close proximity to the Nilgiri Range makes it at times, and especially in the warm weather, excessively oppressive, and lying as it does in a hollow renders it very unhealthy indeed. The Bhowany river, the chief source of water-supply, is for the most part contaminated with noxious and decayed vegetation, making it still more unhealthy. The public health was not as good as usual, owing perhaps to the utter failure of the rains, and the past season has consequently been productive of several diseases, and especially of cholera (the only epidemic which made appearance on the 12th December 1876 and continued until 31st March 1877).

The number of attacks from the commencement was 130 and deaths 65.

In my opinion the disease was imported into this station from the town of Erode and Trichinopoly, where it was prevalent at the time, by the travellers by rail. During the prevalence of cholera I have endeavoured to the utmost of my ability night and day to render all the help which I possibly could for relieving the sick, whether they were in their own houses or in the shed especially got up for them by the Municipality.

The other principal diseases were fever, cholera, dysentery, diarrhoea, conjunctivitis, abscess, ulcers, skin diseases, and injuries.

In conclusion I certify that the orders regarding the custody of poisonous drugs issued by the Principal Inspector-General, Medical Department, dated 23rd January 1863, are fully carried out.

METTAPOLLIEM,
1st April 1877.

(Signed) M. JOSEPH,
Second-class Hospital Assistant,
in med. chge. Mettapolliem Dispy.

In conclusion I beg to offer my humble thanks to the President and Members of the Municipal Commission, who have always most readily and cordially sanctioned and carried out several suggestions tending to the convenience and comfort of the sick at this. My thanks are likewise due to the Deputy Tahsildar, from whom also I have received material assistance.

METTAPOLLIEM,
1st April 1877.

(Signed) M. JOSEPH,
Second-class Hospital Assistant,
in med. chge. Mettapolliem Dispy.

Abstract Return of Sick of In and Out Patients, Civil Dispensary, Mettapolliem, from 1st December 1876 to 31st March 1877.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT, 20TH NOVEMBER 1877, No. 2726.

Classes of Diseases.	NATIVES.						EUROPEANS AND EAST INDIANS.					
	In Patients.			Out Patients.			In-Patients.			Out-Patients.		
	Remained.	Admitted.	Total treated.	Discharged.	Died.	Remaining.	Remained.	Admitted.	Total treated.	Discharged.	Died.	Remaining.
I. Sub-division A.	9	9	9	9	65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Do. B.	5	5	5	3	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	..
Nervous System	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Eye do.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Respiratory System	2	2	2	2	16	17	..	..	..	..	..	..
Digestive do.	17	17	17	7	4	115	..	..	115	15	..	..
Urinary do.	1	1	1	1	..	6	..	..	6	6	..	..
Cellular Tissue	2	2	2	2	..	2	..	..	2	2	..	..
Cutaneous Tissue	..	..	..	..	..	27	..	..	2	27	..	..
Injuries	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	4	4	..	..
Total	36	36	24	7	5	453	..	453	453	37	66	..

MetTAPOLLIEM,
1st April 1877.

(Signed) M. JOSEPH,
2nd-class Hoopl. Asst., in med. chrg. Mettapolliem Diary.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT, 20TH NOVEMBER 1877, No. 2726.

No. 142.

Submitted to Government.

The delay in the submission of this report was caused by the accounts having had to be revised.

A considerable sanitary improvement has been made in the clearance of a jungle of prickly-pear, which encumbered the banks of the Bhewany and surrounded one of the chuttrams. The vegetable rubbish is burnt and the animal refuse buried. The place has a better-cared-for appearance. There is excellent provision for the sick in sheds. There is a great transit of coolies, many of whom fall sick on the road or in the hills. They are taken in and cared for. During this distress I have seen persons rescued from death and in all stages of disease and wonderful recoveries made.

COIMBATORE,
5th September 1877.

(Signed) A. H. T. MARTINDALE,
for President.

No. 117. ORDER THEREON, 20th November 1877, No. 2726.

The receipts and charges of the Mettapolliem Municipality for the four months that it was in existence in 1876-77 are compared in the annexed abstract with the estimates sanctioned for that year:—

RECEIPTS.		Estimate, 1876-77.	Actuals, 1876-77.
		RS.	RS.
Rates on Houses and Lands ..	..	250	..
Taxes on Vehicles and Animals ..	..	300	168
Registration of Carts ..	..	170	103
..	..	587	1,766
Licenses ..	..	35	..
Assignments by Government ..	..	25	..
Contribution from Local Funds ..	..	12	32
Fines and Fees ..	..	68	63
Endowments ..	..	166	75
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	300
Loans ..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	1,613	2,507

CHARGES.		Estimate, 1876-77.	Actuals, 1876-77.
		RS.	RS.
GRANT I.			
New Works—			
Sanitary and Miscellaneous ..	..	258	210
Repairs—			
Communications ..	..	90	100
Sanitary and Miscellaneous ..	..	..	38
Tools and Plant ..	..	25	30
GRANT III.			
Hospitals and Dispensaries ..	..	118	262
Registration of Births and Deaths ..	..	26	21
Conservancy ..	..	581	700
GRANT IV.			
Lighting ..	..	45	200
Markets ..	..	47	44
Chuttrams ..	..	15	15
GRANT V.			
Supervision and Management ..	..	408	656
Advances Recoverable ..	..	..	73
Balances ..	..	..	158
Total ..	..	1,613	2,507

2. The house and land rate was not imposed during the year as there was not sufficient time for the valuation of the houses and lands, and the preparation of the necessary registers.

3. The tolls realised far more than was anticipated, and no contribution was paid to the Local Fund Board as decided in paragraph 2, G.O., 12th December 1876, No. 2268, Financial. The entry of Rupees 300 against "Loans" is the amount borrowed from the Local Fund Board to meet the expenses at the time of the opening of the Municipality and before any collections had been made.

Estimate	..	..	..	Rs.
Actuals	..	..	..	700
				1,766

4. The receipts aggregated Rupees 2,507 and the expenditure incurred was less than this amount by Rupees 158. The public works undertaken and executed were minor works: such as the erection of Toll-sheds, the repair of the High Road leading to the Hills, &c.; and cost of the whole only Rupees 378. No expenditure was incurred on education; and sanitation absorbed nearly forty per cent. of the year's revenue.

5. The Government are glad to learn that considerable sanitary improvement has been effected since the introduction of the Municipal Act into the town and that the sick are well looked after. Temporary accommodation was all that could be made available for them but the relief afforded is great; and the Hospital Assistant appears to have done good work. As many as 497 patients received treatment at the Hospital and twenty-six children were vaccinated by the Hospital Assistant.

36 in.
461 out-patients.

6. The transactions between the Municipality and the Manager of the Coimbatore Municipality referred to in the Auditor's report should be explained.

7. Statement I. A. should be explained.

* Rupees 48.

should be transferred to the Municipal Fund. Statement II as Endowment Fund balance

(True Extract.)

J. H. Smith
Under Secy. to Govt.

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

Revenue Receipt

No 4960

Expt. of 1877/78

FINANCIAL.

7.
THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Municipality,

do.

do.

do.

Dated November, 20th.

Received of

for

G.O. 20th November 1877, No. 574.

NOVEMBER.
Nov. 1877.

Receipt—Receipt—Receipt of Municipal
Commission for the month of 1877, 1878.

216443

Dodgson

29th Nov 77

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