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GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

31st October 1878, No. 1975.

Municipal—Reports.

Read the following paper :—

No. 281. *From H. SEWELL, Esq., President of the Municipal Commissions, Trichinopoly District, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated Srirangam, 30th September* 1878, *No.* 18.

I have the honor to forward the Municipal report for the Town of Srirangam, for the year 1877-78, with the usual statements and enclosures.

2. There is not much to note in the working of the year. The Municipal Funds have been greatly crippled by the effects of famine, which rendered the collection of taxes more difficult than usual. Nothing in the way of new works is recorded, except some small additions to the Hospital buildings, which are now in a very complete state.

3. This institution was under the charge of the Native Surgeon, Dr. Baulu Mudaliar, to whose exertions for some years past its success is greatly owing. During the year under report, the Hospital was deprived of his services for a few months by sickness, and, I regret to say, that the same cause has now compelled him to retire altogether.

4. Notwithstanding the pressure of famine the town was tolerably free from epidemics, especially cholera, which is always expected to make its appearance in December, i.e., about the time of the great festival. This year the diminished number of pilgrims probably had a wholesome effect.

5. Not much has been done in the way of education, but funds are scarce, and I think the Commissioners have acted wisely in restricting their efforts to thoroughly elementary education.

6. The Commissioners, both official and non-official, continue to show great interest in their work; and, considering the financial difficulties of the year, I think the report may be considered to be fairly satisfactory.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Report on the Working of the Towns Improvement Act in the Town of Srirangam during the Official Year 1877-78.

The year under report commenced with an opening balance of Rupees 7, the taxes and other sources of income yielded during the year Rupees 12,572, and the total available assets amounted therefore to Rupees 12,579. Almost the whole of this amount was spent during the year; in fact the income was not sufficient to cover the entire demand of the year.

2. The figures given below represent the income and expenditure as compared with the Budget Estimates:—

RECEIPTS.

	Budget Estimate.	Actuals.
	RS.	RS.
Rates on Houses	5,600	4,481
Rates on Lands	2,500	1,557
Tax on Vehicles	150	195
Tax on Animals	350	847
Registration of Carts	300	418
Tolls share received from Local Fund Board	1,000	1,000
Licenses	295	374
Contribution from Provincial Funds	150	102
Do. from Special Funds	50	35
Do. from Local Funds	2,816	2,371
Fines	150	55
Fees, &c.	155	79
Fees in Schools	100	192
Private Contribution	1,200	765
Miscellaneous	65	101
Balance brought forward	..	7
Total ..	14,881	12,579

EXPENDITURE.

	Budget Estimate.	Actuals.
GRANT I.	RS.	RS.
New Works—		
Building	..	738
Repairs—		
Communications	300	1,050
Drainage	..	24
Miscellaneous	..	2
Establishment	..	16
GRANT II.		
Municipal Schools	168	139
Schools on Combined System	418	302
Inspection Charges	1,152	870
GRANT III.	180	..
Hospital		
Vaccination	4,384	2,167
Registration of Births and Deaths	300	155
Conservancy	180	168
GRANT IV.	3,864	3,547
Lighting		
Avenues	1,000	1,096
Miscellaneous	800	676
GRANT V.	72	198
Head Office		
Collections	753	800
Miscellaneous	400	193
Closing Balance	410	423
.. ..	..	20
Total ..	14,881	12,579

3. The actual receipts fell short of the Budget Estimates by Rupees 2,302; the decrease occurs chiefly under "Rates on Houses and Lands." As in the year 1876-77, the progress of our

collections was through the effects of famine considerably retarded. The subsequent collections have reduced the deficit to Rupees 1,307. A portion of this sum is irrecoverable and will be adjusted on the necessary inquiries now in progress being completed.

4. Turning to the Demand, Collection and Balance Statement, the balance at the close of the year, viz., Rupees 5,082, was by subsequent collections* and remissions† reduced to Rupees 2,835. Claims for further remissions are under investigation.

RS.
* 1,088.
† 1,159.

5. GRANT I—*New Works.*—The Dispensary and Hospital was improved by the addition of two more buildings—one 27ft. by 19ft. by 12ft. for the accommodation of contagious disease cases, and the other 19ft. by 15ft. by 14½ft., a dead-house.

The Tanjore Princess' ward was thoroughly completed.

6. *Repairs.*—The roadway leading from the Trunk Road No. VIII near the northern extremity of the Cauvery Bridge to the south gate of Srirangam proper, *viâ* Ammamuntapum, and over the new bridge constructed last year across the Nadukkarai Natvoikal Channel, was thoroughly repaired and for the great part metalled. This work, together with the upkeep of the already existing roads and the repairs of the breaches caused by the floods of Nadukkarai Natvoikal Channel, the head sluice of which was washed away during the year, have more than doubled the Budget provision. Rupees 1,050 were paid within the year, and the balance has since been disbursed.

7. GRANT II.—The Educational operations of the year included the maintenance of the Municipal Girls' School, together with four‡ Boys' Schools on the combined system and the payment of results grants to two of those schools.

‡ Two Schools maintained throughout the year.
One reduced on the 1st December 1877 on account of abolition of 3rd and 4th Standards.
One collapsed on the 24th April 1877.

The attendance at these schools and their cost are given below:—

	Average Attendance.	Charges.	Cost per Head.
	NO.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Girls' School	30	302 4 4	10 1 2½
Two Schools on combined system in Srirangam proper	129	737 12 5	5 11 6
Two Results Grants Schools	225	0 0	this is included in the aforesaid Rs. 737-12-5.
Two Schools on combined system in Jumboocaswaram, one of which collapsed on the 20th April 1877, and the other on the 1st December 1877	24	131 13 7	4 13 6

8. *Girls' School.*—The prejudice against Female Education has not as yet been subdued, particularly amongst the higher classes of the community, to any appreciable extent. Girls are not steady in their attendance, and are generally withdrawn from the school after a short course of study. Several families have not availed themselves of the use of this institution. Some have openly expressed their aversion to female education alleging among other grounds that it is an unnecessary qualification in a female. Distribution of prize-books in the presence of the chief residents of the station has little served to promote the object in view. Needle-work is likely to render the institution attractive, and the Commissioners have at last met with a competent caste mistress now at Tanjore, and are now negotiating for her services which they expect to obtain shortly. The daily average attendance having fallen off, the services of the second tutor were dispensed with from the 4th December last.

9. *Schools on Combined System.*—The 3rd and 4th Standards introduced into these schools during the preceding year, with a class fee of Annas 3 and Annas 6, respectively, considerably reduced the strength of the Government Taluk School in the town where the fee prescribed for those standards were Annas 8 and Annas 12, respectively. The Commissioners were by no means willing that their school should prove a rival institution to the Government School, and finding also that the Taluk School is provided with a better paid and a far more efficient staff of teachers, have dispensed with the standards in question from the Combined System Schools from the 31st August 1877. This measure restored the Taluk School to its former strength, and the three Combined System Schools were reduced to two schools.

10. The number of Combined System Schools on the date of this report is four.

11. *Results Grants.*—The two Combined System Schools, referred to above, were examined and paid results grants as well. There were no schools on the simple results system.

12. GRANT III.—The Hospital and Dispensary continues to prove a great success, as the following figures exhibit :—

	In-door Patients.	Out-door Patients.
1873-74 (the first year of the institution)	5	10,088
1874-75	178	11,599
1875-76	267	12,637
1876-77	253	11,871
1877-78	536	12,272

13. The large increase in in-door patients is due to the recent famine.

14. The annexed statement shows the results of the treatment :—

Year.	Admissions including the Balance.	Relieved.	Cured.	No better.	Absented.	Died.	Remaining.
1873-74							
1874-75	10,093	9,613	90	17	294	...	79
1875-76	11,777	11,486	83	2	123	14	69
1876-77	12,844	12,486	166	5	59	65	63
1877-78	12,124	11,790	154	9	64	23	84
	12,808	12,393	149	5	38	166	57

15. The actual charges, though nominally about one-half of the estimate, have in reality exceeded the Budget allotment, the cost of medicines supplied during the year and the contribution on account of Medical Staff for the entire year not having been paid within the year for lack of funds.

16. *Vaccination.*—Vaccination shows but a slight advance over the preceding year The results are compared below with those of the preceding three years :—

	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Total.
1874-75			
1875-76	761	73	834
1876-77	476	33	509
1877-78	585	46	631
.. ..	559	124	683

17. The Municipal Vaccinator was, from the 1st September 1877, placed under the immediate supervision of the Vaccination Superintendent (now Deputy Inspector) of the district. He is a second-class vaccinator on a salary of Rupees 10 a-month. The proposals of the Superintendent, to promote the vaccinator to first class on Rupees 15 a-month, and to appoint an apprentice on Rupees 5 a-month, are under the consideration of the Commissioners.

18. The number of births registered was 243 and deaths 1,014. The year was not a healthy one, the undermentioned diseases having prevailed :—

Cholera.	Dysentery.	Rheumatism.
Smallpox.	Dyspepsia.	Inflammation.
Fever.	Worms.	External meatus.
Diarrhœa.	Ulcers.	&c., &c., &c.

19. The annual feast at Srirangam was, through the effects of famine, attended by a comparatively very small number of pilgrims.

20. *Conservancy.*—The actual expenditure fell short of the Budget allotment by Rupees 317, as the provision made for the special sanitary arrangements on the occasion of the annual festival was not fully utilized owing to the very small number of pilgrims that attended the feast.

21. GRANT IV.—The Lighting and Avenues were properly attended to. The increase under Miscellaneous occurs chiefly in the payment of Rupees 198-4-11 towards the maintenance of the lunatics sent from the Trichinopoly District to the Asylum at Madras.

22. The Auditor's report, its enclosures, and a copy of Native Surgeon's report on the working of the Dispensary, are herewith submitted.

SRIRANGAM,
30th September 1878.

(Signed) H. VENKATA RAU,
Vice-President.

ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT OF THE SRIRANGAM DISPENSARY FOR 1877.

I. *Dispensary Buildings—Present state of Repair, Furniture, Fittings, &c.*—The Dispensary buildings are in very good condition, having been only lately built, viz., in 1873. A large ward has been added during the year under report, which was built from a most liberal contribution of Rupees 2,000 made by Her Highness the Princess of Tanjore. In honor of the Royal endower, this ward is designated "The Princess of Tanjore's Ward."

A deadhouse, which was much wanted, was in the course of construction, when unfortunately the building was brought down by the recent incessant rains and the floods which inundated the whole of the back part of the Dispensary compound.

The furniture consists of:—Almirahs, 2; Table, 1; Compounding Table, 1; Dissecting Table, 1; Clock, 1; Teapoy, 1; Chairs, 4; Brass Basin, 1; and Shelves, 3.

II. *Dispensary Committee—Frequency of Meetings.*—There is a Dispensary Committee the members of which never met during the year, owing to absence from sickness and other causes. But everything connected with the Dispensary was freely discussed and its bills passed in the Municipal Meetings held every fortnight, in which the Hospital Committee became as it were incorporated.

III. *Most common Diseases among out-door and in-door Patients; their Prevalence and Fatality as compared with those Years.*—The most common diseases that prevailed during the year have been fever, rheumatism, inflammation, external meatus, dyspepsia, diarrhœa, dysentery, worms, ulcers, and other skin diseases.

IV. *Epidemics which have occurred in the Station or its Vicinity.*—Cholera was present in the town and its neighbourhood in a sporadic form throughout the whole year under review, showing itself now and then in some portion of the town when least expected and disappearing almost as suddenly. Under this head 64 cases have been treated of whom 21 died, giving 32·8 percentage of deaths. The smallpox also in a sporadic form occurred in August and September chiefly among the famine patients. Eighteen cases were treated of whom four died.

V. *Inspection by Civil Surgeon and Deputy Surgeon-General.*—The Dispensary is visited once a year by the Deputy Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, Southern District, Trichinopoly.

VI. *Attendance of Patients as contrasted with previous Years distinguishing In-door from Out-door.*—During the bygone year 515 in and 12,708 out patients have been treated. These numbers, when compared with those of the previous years, show an increase of 266 in-door and 1,053 out-door cases.

The increase is chiefly due to the severe famine which has devastated the land and drove in large numbers of starved and naked people to the Dispensary for shelter, support, and treatment.

The expenses of the famine cases were paid by our protecting Government, without whose timely and liberal aid hundreds must have perished from want, hunger, and disease.

VII. *General Remarks.*—The Dispensary continues to be prosperous, and that its popularity is increasing is attested by the number of in and out door cases treated during the past year as compared with the previous year.

The financial condition of the Dispensary however was much depressed, owing to the difficulty the Municipality had to encounter in collecting the taxes from the famine-stricken people who had not sufficient means to pay them.

The recent grand Kottayi feast, which took place in December last, went off successfully, no epidemic of any kind having occurred during the time.

(Signed) C. BAULU MUDALIAR,
Native Surgeon in Medical charge, Srirangam.

No. 282. ORDER THEREON, 31st October 1878, No. 1975.

In the following abstract the receipts and expenditure of the Srirangam Municipality for the year 1877-78 are compared with the actuals of the preceding year and the budget of the year under review:—

RECEIPTS.

	Actuals, 1876-77.	Estimate, 1877-78.	Actuals, 1877-78.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Balance brought forward	1,532	..	7
Rates on Houses and Lands	6,191	8,100	6,038
Taxes on Vehicles and Animals	1,131	500	1,042
Registration of Carts	430	300	418
Tolls	1,000	..	1,000
Licenses	506	450	374
Assignments by Government	271	200	137
Contribution from Local Funds	2,403	3,816	2,371
Fines and Fees	398	150	134
Endowments	1,609	1,200	765
Miscellaneous	117	165	293
Total ..	15,588	14,881	12,579

CHARGES.

	Actuals, 1876-77.	Estimate, 1877-78.	Actuals, 1877-78.
GRANT I.	RS.	RS.	RS.
New Works—			
Buildings	535	..	733
Sanitary and Miscellaneous ..	1,862	..	..
Repairs—			
Communications	1,297	800	1,050
Buildings	..	..	24
Sanitary and Miscellaneous ..	20	..	19
Establishment	168	168	138
GRANT II.			
Municipal Schools	337	418	302
Results Grants	250	..	..
Schools on the Combined System ..	411	1,152	870
Inspection (Contribution)	..	180	..
GRANT III.			
Hospitals and Dispensaries	3,225	4,384	2,167
Vaccination	173	300	155
Registration of Births and Deaths ..	168	180	168
Conservancy	3,961	3,864	3,547
GRANT IV.			
Lighting	1,020	1,000	1,096
Avenues and Watering Roads	793	800	676
Miscellaneous	16	72	198
GRANT V.			
Supervision and Management	1,345	1,563	1,416
Balances	7	..	20
Total ..	15,588	14,881	12,579

2. The receipts of the year excluding balances amounted to Rupees 12,572, against a Budget Estimate of Rupees 14,881, and actuals in 1876-77, Rupees 14,056. There were outstanding at the close of the year arrears aggregating Rupees 5,082, of which no less than Rupees 3,020 were old arrears. It is noted that, on the 30th September last, the total arrears had been reduced to Rupees 2,835. These large outstandings are explained by the prevalent distress of the year. The Government appreciate and are quite willing to accept this explanation, but at the same time they would observe that all such cases of distress should be dealt with in the year to which the demand belongs. The accumulation of large arrears is objectionable, not only from a financial and administrative point of view, but also in the interests of the

taxpayers generally. The Commissioners will be instructed without delay to deal with still existing outstandings, striking off such as may equitably so be treated, and enforcing the demand in regard to the remainder. The receipts show a falling off of Rupees 867 under six heads of revenue against an increase of Rupees 3,176 under the remaining eight heads. The only item of increase which is noteworthy is Rupees 497 under Tax on Animals, which shows the activity of trade and travel during the year. The principal items of decrease are the House and Land Rates, Local Fund and Private Contributions towards the Native Surgeon's salary.

3. The expenditure of the year was distributed as follows :—

Grant I.—Works	15·6
„ II.—Education	9·3
„ III.—Health	48·0
„ IV.—Lighting	15·7
„ V.—Management	11·4

4. The expenditure under Grant I was more than double the amount provided. The Government are glad to hear of the improvements carried out in the Dispensary buildings; but they remark that such important variations from the Budget provisions should be submitted for sanction. They are pleased to learn that the Princess of Tanjore's ward has been completed.

5. The Educational arrangements of the town seem to need revision. It is doubtful whether a Government Taluk School—at least in its lower classes—should be continued. The closing of one Combined System School and the reduction of the standard in others, so that they should not clash with the Government Taluk School, is really the fostering of a State Institution at the expense of private and local effort. The attention of the Director of Public Instruction will be drawn to the Vice-President's remarks, and he will be requested to submit his views on the subject for the consideration of Government. It is noted that the number of pupils decreased from 382 to 353 and 39 girls to 153 and 30, respectively. The decrease in boys was due to the refusal of grants to the Results Grant Schools. The charges rose from Rupees 998 to Rupees 1,172. The cost of each pupil in the combined schools of Srirangam proper was no less than Rupees 5-11-6. The Government have perused with interest the Vice-President's remarks on the Pennington Girls' School, and are very glad to learn that the Commissioners hope to secure the services of a competent mistress from Tanjore and to introduce needle-work. These changes will doubtless in time tend to lessen the prejudice of many of the respectable classes against female education—a prejudice which does little credit to the leisured and wealthy people of Srirangam.

6. The Dispensary appears to have been worked satisfactorily and to be growing in the estimation of the people. The number of patients treated was in-patients 536, out-patients 12,272, against 253 and 11,871 respectively in 1876-77. The institution has been enlarged and improved by the addition of the Tanjore Princess' ward, and two other buildings. The Government regret to learn of the resignation of Dr. Balu Mudaliar, who for several years has devoted his best energies to the advancement of the institution. The Government regret to observe that the medicines supplied were not paid for during the year, and also that the salary of the Medical Staff fell into arrears.

7. The Vaccination results are not satisfactory, the number of operations (683) being less than in 1874-75 (834). The Government trust the Commissioners will have been able to adopt the Deputy Inspector's proposals.

8. The number of births registered was 213, that of deaths 1,014 against 364 and 611 respectively in the preceding year. The year was unhealthy, cholera and smallpox having prevailed to some extent, though the former epidemic did not appear among the pilgrims at the annual feast.

9. The Conservancy of the town appears to have been fairly attended to, though neither the President nor the Vice-President remark at any length on this subject.

10. The Government do not regard the Auditor's report as altogether satisfactory. Mr. Sewell will, however, doubtless urge on the Commissioners the propriety of improving the existing system of check.

11. The Government note with pleasure the President's remarks on the interest in public affairs taken by the Commissioners.

(True Extract.)

Acting Under Secy. to Govt.

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

2011

57 Exd. J. Wright.

Revenue Department
No 5733.

Govt. of {1878} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Srirangam.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated October, 31st.
Issued 20/11
Recd. 28 November *Encl.*

G.O., 31st *October* 1878, *No.* 1975.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 281-282.

Municipal — Reports.—The Annual Report of the Srirangam Municipality for 1877-78, reviewed.

No 2857
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22 Nov 78.