

REPORT.

THE Committee appointed to examine and report upon the County Accounts, have attended to that duty, and beg leave to make the following Report.

NO. 1, IS THE ALMS HOUSE ACCOUNT.

Balance in hands of Commissioners, 31st December, 1845,

£319 7 9

And obtained a Warrant from the Sessions, January 1846, for £495, as follows:—

Parish of Fredericton,	£275	0	0
„ St. Mary's,	130	0	0
„ Douglas,	40	0	0
„ Kingsclear,	40	0	0
„ Prince William,	10	0	0
	£495	0	0

Amount expended by Commissioners to 31st December, 1846,

£705 15 5½

Balance in hands of Commissioners, 31st December, 1846,

£190 19 9½

And the Commissioners ask for a Warrant of Assessment for the following amounts, viz:—

Parish of Fredericton,	£400	0	0
„ Kingsclear,	50	0	0
„ Douglas,	46	0	0
„ St. Mary's,	80	0	0
„ Stanley,	80	0	0
„ Queensbury,	20	0	0
„ Prince William,	10	0	0
	£686	0	0

Upon the Accounts the Committee beg to make the following remarks:—

In the arrangement entered into by the Commissioners with the Medical Attendant, it appears that his services are limited to the paupers upon the in-door establishment, and that he charges his usual fees in all cases where his services are required for out-door paupers, of whom the number is very considerable. The Committee therefore recommend that in entering into an agreement with any Medical Gentleman for the ensuing year, his services should be stipulated for, as well for the out-door as the in-door paupers upon the Establishment.

The Committee also recommend that Tenders should be advertised for, and received, for the supply of Fresh Beef, as may be required annually for the Alms House.

There appears to be in the hands of the Commissioners bonds to a considerable amount from sundry delinquents, against these parties. Your Committee would respectfully recommend that proceedings be instituted for the recovery of the same, unless they are paid forthwith.

It was the intention of your Committee to have remarked upon several charges in this Account, particularly upon many which relate to out-door paupers; but having requested the attendance of such of the Commissioners as were in Fredericton, and having heard their explanations, your Committee are of opinion that the duties imposed upon the Commissioners have been discharged as faithfully, and with as great a regard to the interests of the County as could be desired, when the nature of their services—altogether gratuitous—is considered: and, after consulting with the Commissioners, your Committee are unanimously of opinion that a more efficient and economical system of management could be adopted than that at present in operation,—so far as regards the Parish of Fredericton; and they would decidedly recommend that the establishment should be placed under the supervision and controul of one properly qualified Commissioner, whose duty it should be carefully to investigate the case of every applicant for admission into the Alms House and for Parochial assistance as an out-door pauper; and for which services a fair and reasonable remuneration should be allowed.

NO. 2; ARE THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS.

Balance in favour of Treasurer 31st December, 1845,

£18 9 5

Ditto ditto ditto 31st December, 1846,

£26 12 6½

Balances due to sundry individuals, as per Treasurer's Account, and passed by the Court, £650 2 0, and to which add sundry accounts handed in since the end of the year, and audited by Committee, £146 15 9; from which there appears to be a very large sum of £796 15 9 due by the County, exclusive of the balance due to the Treasurer, and claim on account of the New Gaol.

Your Committee are compelled to call the attention of Your Worships, to the entire disregard paid to your orders, requiring all Accounts to be handed in to the Treasurer previous to the end of the year. In consequence of which, the duties of the Committee have been much increased, and the business of the Court retarded, by not having the Report of the Committee at an early day of the Session.

No. 3. NEW GAOL ACCOUNT.

There appears by the Treasurer's Account, to be in his hands the sum of £281 3 5, subject to the disposal of the Court.

Your Committee would respectfully suggest to the Court, the expediency of having the actual balance on this Account ascertained, in order that provision may be made to liquidate the same.

Your Committee are happy to Report that the County Accounts which have been laid before them by the County Treasurer, and the Commissioners of the Alms House, appear to have been kept in a manner creditable to the parties and satisfactory to your Committee.

The statement of the claims against the Fire Wardens of Fredericton, was not laid before your Committee in time to be considered by them. There appears however, to be a balance due by the Firewards of £206 14 3.