

He resumed his gardening operations, occasionally pausing to laugh all to himself, while Cousin Jack sprang up the path to meet Mary.

They were absent a long time—in fact as old Jabez thought, an unreasonably long time—before he discerned through the dense foliage of the acacia hedges their advancing forms, Mr. Lucy looking exceedingly proud and self-satisfied, and Mary leaning on his arm, with her cheeks flushed, and her lips wreathed in timid smiles.

“What does she say?” roared the patriarch.

“She says she’ll consider of it,” answered Jack, demurely.

A week or two afterwards Minnie Chester received a neat little package, containing the diamond sleeve-buttons and the following billet:

“DEAR MIMMIE,—I’ve lost my wager, but I cheerfully deliver over the forfeited stakes, for I have won something of infinitely more value—a wife.  
Cousin Jack.”

From which we may conclude that the result of Miss Mary’s ‘consideration’ was favorable.

### Northern Railway of Canada.

RICHMOND HILL TIME TABLE	
Riding North.	
Mail Train	8 54 A. M.
Express	4 29 P. M.
Riding South.	
Express	10 07 A. M.
Mail	6 54 P. M.

### New Advertisements.

Grammar School re-opened.  
Stray Cols.—C. H. Matrick.  
Stick a Pin there.—Geo. Simpson.  
To Let.  
Temperance Lecture.  
Cheap Cotton Goods.—W. S. Pollock.  
Commercial Hotel.—H. Lemon.  
Gloucester House.—Joseph Gaby.  
Fourth Lecture.—Mechanics’ Institute.

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The York Herald, \$1.00 a year.

## The York Herald.

RICHMOND HILL, FEB. 9, 1866.

### County Indigents.

As will be seen from the proceedings of the Counties’ Council, (published in another column), the subject of local indigence is beginning to attract considerable attention. We can no longer close our eyes to the fact that a part of our rural population is incapable of its own support—not from any hardness of the times or lack of employment, but from age, infirmity and orphanage; and it therefore becomes a public duty to make some provision for its maintenance. It is useless to speculate upon the cause of this state of things, with a view to its prevention. Poverty and orphanage increase with wealth and population. They are inseparable adjuncts of civilization; and it is part of the duties of civilization to make adequate provision. It is certainly time that some uniform and definite policy was adopted in treating the rapidly increasing number of applicants for municipal aid. Hitherto the amount expended in each Township, has depended rather upon the constitution of the council than the wants of the locality. Hence the striking difference in the expenditure for charitable purposes of the various Townships. Some have voted away nearly a thousand dollars; others less than a fourth of that amount. On the one hand there has been a careless liberality, which has fostered the evil it would remedy. On the other an extreme niggardliness, which has thrown almost the whole burden on private benevolence.

Now we believe that even after a reasonable public provision has been made, the field for the exercise of private charity will yet be sufficiently extensive. In many instances, not money alone, but also care and kind attention are necessary, and these should be voluntary. But if the support of the indigent is left principally to those whose generosity may provide for it, such provision must necessarily be inadequate; and moreover, the whole burden which belongs equally to all property owners generous or churlish, falls unjustly upon the shoulders of the willing few. This is not right. Every man who is able, willing or unwilling should be made to contribute toward the relief of the unfortunate. Therefore by all means let the grants to the indigent be continued, but let, as the council recommend some means be adopted whereby the amount shall bear some just proportion to the actual need, and shall be distributed subject to some fixed regulation.

No township is under any just obligation to support the indigents who have drifted into it from other localities; yet in the absence of any restrictive rule, money is now voted promiscuously to all comers, who are in need, without enquiry as to where they properly belong. In the poor laws of England, the obligation of each

parish to support its own poor, and them only is distinctly recognized, and a similar feature should belong to our legislation also.

As to whether the plan proposed by the Counties’ Council committee, in their petition will be effective or not, experience will be the best judge. Crude and incomplete as it is, it cannot fail to be an improvement on the present system. If it does not very much lighten the aggregate burden, it will at least equalize it. Market gardening as a private enterprise, and in a favorable locality may pay handsomely, but burdened by such expenses as will be inseparable from this institution, and prosecuted with such assistants as the aged and decrepit, too much must not be expected from it. Moreover it will require considerable capital to commence with, and it is by no means likely that Government will furnish said capital by grants of public lands or otherwise. The Counties themselves will have to put their shoulders to the wheel,—there is the responsibility and theirs will be the present and future gain in lightening individual burdens by a common effort; and establishing, while the difficulty is yet young, an equitable system which may hereafter be expended to suit the necessity of the times.

An industrial farm is very well in its way, but it does not go far enough. It fails to provide employment for the long winters when expense would be greatest. It is not to be expected that the profits of the farm would keep its poor laborers in idleness for half the year—in fact it is not to be expected that it would be self-sustaining at all, and therefore the greater necessity for some sort of indoor occupation being provided, which would add to the net income. Such light, useful employment affording saleable products, could be easily devised, and it is to be hoped that if the suggestion of the Committee meets with favor, provision for such will not be omitted. It will be time enough however to give the subject further discussion when the project is more fully matured.

### Richmond Hill County Grammar School.

It affords us much pleasure to invite the attention of our readers to this institution, which will be re-opened on Monday next, 12th inst., by J. Windat, Esq., M. A., a graduate of Cambridge, England, and of the Toronto University, whose experience and success as a Grammar School Teacher, in Canada, is second to none in this Province. Mr. Windat comes here with testimonials of the highest order, as having prepared pupils for the University, who have graduated with honors. We congratulate the Trustees upon the success which has crowned their determined efforts to secure the services of a gentleman of Mr. Windat’s standing in his profession, and we trust that the parents and guardians of the youth of our neighborhood will rally round the Grammar School, and manifest their appreciation of its usefulness by sending pupils to it, who are anxious to obtain a thorough education.

We have a few words to offer, in regard to the financial affairs of this branch of our Schools here—for some few years back an erroneous impression has been industriously circulated among the rate-payers of the common school section here, that the Grammar School has been a burden upon the School Section,—it is not fair to say that such has never been the case, but on the contrary the Grammar Schools receipts have always been more than its expenditure, and the balance has went into the common fund of both Grammar and Common Schools, as may be seen by reference to the printed financial statement which appears in a recent number of our paper. We trust that we have heard the last of such assertions, made for the sole purpose of injuring the Grammar School. Let it be borne in mind that the Grammar School here is supported out of a grant from Government, and a grant from the County Council, together with the fees paid by pupils, and that there is no rate levied upon the School Section for Grammar School purposes (although the Trustees have the power, by law, to do so) because it was not necessary as the School was more than self-sustaining,—we trust that the good sense of the community will rally to its support and keep it so.

THE COMMERCIAL HOTEL.—Our readers will observe by an advertisement in another column, that Mr. Henry Lemon, (late of Edinburg), has opened the above Hotel, in Toronto. The accommodations at this House are first-rate, including large and commodious stable and yard for the convenience of those attending the market. The house accommodations are also first-class, their being over fifty bedrooms and several parlours, all comfortably furnished. In fact Mr. Lemon is determined to sustain his reputation as a landlord, which he enjoyed and deserved at his Thornhill hotel.

### Mechanics’ Institute.

The third lecture under the auspices of the Mechanics Institute, was delivered last Friday evening by the Rev. James Dick on the ‘Church and Catacombs of Rome.’ The Rev. Lecturer gave a very interesting account of the origin of the catacombs, and their use by the early Christian church in times of persecution. By a reference to the inscriptions found on the tombs with which these mysterious vaults abound, and a comparison of them with the epitaphs on pagan monuments, he beautifully illustrated the sublime superiority of the principles and influences of the Christian faith, the agreement of History, Science and Scripture and the identity of the Protestant faith of the present day, with that professed in the first centuries after Christ.

We regret that we have no space to quote at length some of the beautiful passages in which the lecturer abounded. We are sure they will dwell long in the remembrance of the audience.

FOURTH LECTURE.—As will be seen by the advertisement the next lecture of the course will be delivered on Friday evening next, (the 16th,) by John Campbell, Esq., B. A. of Toronto University. Subject:—‘Will Canada defend herself.’ A more finished scholar than Mr. Campbell has never issued from the halls of his alma mater, and especially as an essayist—as a vigorous thinker and eloquent writer, he has gained much distinction. The subject is one of unusual interest to Canadians, and in the hands of Mr. Campbell ought to draw a full audience. We hope our village will vindicate its reputation as an apprecia of intellectual eloquence, by a bumper house.

### Sale Notices.

SATURDAY FEB. 10.—Cash sale of Straw, on lot No. 48, 1st Con. Vaughan, Richmond Hill, the property of Mr. John Linford.

THURSDAY FEB. 15.—Credit Sale of Farm Stock, &c., on lot 34, 4th Con. Vaughan, the property of Mr. Archibald McDougall. Sale at 11 a. m. H. Smelson, Auctioneer.

THURSDAY FEB. 22.—Credit Sale of Stock & Implements, on lot 2, 3rd Con. Whitchurch, the property of Mr. S. Baker. Sale at 11 a. m. J. Ferris, Auctioneer.

### Correspondence.

#### Free Schools vs. Rate Bill.

To the Editor of the York Herald.  
DEAR SIR,—My only apology for continuing the present discussion must be, that it may perhaps prove interesting to many of your readers. Not only so, sir, but the fair and gentlemanly manner in which my clever opponent has advanced whatever of truth and argument there is on his side of the question, induces me to believe that his sole object is the vindication of truth, and that by its exhibition he may be made a convert to the true faith; therefore I will, with your permission, point out wherein I consider his last arguments lack that force and weight, which he very naturally attributes to them.

“Free School” in the commencement of his last letter, accuses me of “endeavouring to split a hair,” in distinguishing between the tenant or freehold farmer, whose taxable property is large, and whose income is small, and the prosperous mechanic whose income is large, and whose taxable property is small. The difference in the positions of the two parties is evident—so palpable in fact, as to frequently make over \$10 variation in their respective taxes. Yet one is as well able to pay as the other, and in the matter of education his children should contribute in proportion to the direct benefit he receives and his ability to pay for it. Now from such fair and just obligations the Free School system relieves him, (the mechanic,) and places him almost on a level with the pauper, while it burdens the farmer or other holder of real estate with the educational support of both. If pointing out this significant distinction be “hair-splitting,” I venture to say that most sound thinkers split hairs very frequently.

I am quite ready to grant that very many mechanics vote for free schools on principle, nor do I venture to affirm or insinuate that said principle is in all cases one of economy, since many of them have taxable property to a considerable amount; but where taxable property to a considerable amount is joined to a school going family of a considerable amount likewise, the disinterestedness of their advocacy, though perhaps equally genuine, is not so clearly evident. As regards the assertion “that their position is far more enviable than those who will not give at all for their benevolence might extend too far,” it is also freely granted, for in truth the latter class have no real existence. Whether ‘rate bill’ or ‘free school’ all property must contribute its quota to make up the necessary amount. No man who is worth anything can get off with ‘nothing at all,’ and the rate bill simply attempts to lessen the burden of those who do not use the schools by requiring that those who do, and are able, should pay in proportion. I merely refer to these passages by way of connection, in reality they contain nothing affecting the argument.

Further on in Free Schools letter I find the following passage:

“We also know that were we to view the matter in a speculative light, that it is money well invested; for if our common Schools, under the present rate-bill system are the means of lessening the tendency to the commission of crime, just in proportion to the freedom of access to these means, will the expenses of our criminal jurisprudence diminish. It costs us more to detect, try and punish an undebated criminal, than the sending of half-dozen children to be educated by taxation.”

It is no doubt very pleasing and satisfactory to meet the matter thus in a speculative light, and to take a host of things for granted and urge them as facts, without the trouble of proof, but it is not that practical kind of argument which will lead us to safe conclusions. If crime diminished in proportion as rate bills were abolished, it certainly would be an argument against them; but that it does so is mere hypothesis unsupported by a single fact. To all those whom a rate bill could exclude, and who might be supposed liable from ignorance to fall into crime, our schools are free already; and if because of their being free in this respect the ‘poor and proud’ decline to use them, such ‘poor and proud’ are not the stuff criminals are made of. The schools are free in the city of Toronto, and yet the very class who might according to Free School’s speculative philosophy be supposed most anxious to benefit by them, namely, the poor and likely to be poor, use them least. Their sensibility was not likely to be offended, no ‘brand of pauperism’ would be affixed to them, and yet they people the streets with beggars, and furnish the vagrants who emphatically decline the benefits of free education. The fact is that with respect to the very class it is intended to benefit free education in our common schools is comparatively useless, without some compulsory legislation to enforce its use; and as to the direct connection of crime and ignorance, we are only too well aware that the former instead of being directly traceable to the latter, is even among the young often combined with a large amount of precocity and intelligence, and in nearly all instances with a thorough knowledge of right and wrong. It is not secular, but moral education, and removal from temptation must cure the evil.

“Every additional child snatched from ruin adds to the moral stature of our country &c.” This is all very true and very beautiful besides. But is purely ornamental, except it be insinuated that a free school has greater facilities for ‘snatching from ruin,’ than a school that is free to all those who are ever likely to go there. If education free by law, to those to whom it might be salvation, is good, will ‘Free School’ state why education free by benevolence, is evil? That any increase to the sum total of general intelligence increase the value of property, and aids in developing the resources of the country, is an argument for free schools or any other kind of schools, against no schools, but it is no argument for free schools against rate bill ones till something more than speculative advantages can be claimed for the former.

Notwithstanding the ‘good use’ I have already made of the plea of injustice urged against the free school system, I still urge it, and maintain that its validity has not been affected by anything yet proven on the opposite side, and that the injustice of being made to pay for those who are well able to pay for themselves is inexorable, since the cause of education gains nothing by the wrong. Show me in this section, or any other section, that a free school has effected any more than a rate bill school could effect, and I will withdraw the statement. ‘Free School’ says, “I have already shown that both parties receive commensurate value,” but such speculative demonstrations as he has given is not sufficient.

In a former letter I gave my reasons for considering that there is no analogy between the case of general taxation and that of school taxation. These yet remain unanswered save by further assertion. Taxes for general purposes are levied on the amount of property assessed alone, for the very evident reason that governments or municipalities have no other way of arriving at the individual share of benefit received from the laws and institutions of the country. But it is different in schools. The direct benefit is proportional to the use made, and not according to the property possessed, and therefore the payment should be in proportion to the former, within a reasonable limit. To go beyond that limit would be to destroy the general effectiveness of the system, by placing education within reach only of the very wealthy, and in order to make it general, general taxation for the deacony becomes necessary. But this taxation which is necessary, removes not the obligation of every one to contribute according to his means.

With respect to the ‘dog’ story, if ‘Free School’ did not keep a ‘little cur’ he would not be taxed for it. The inference is plain—if I don’t send a child to school why make me pay twice what I ought to assist those who do, and are able to pay for themselves? ‘Free School’s’ remark that my objection to the inconclusiveness of his argument, drawn from the large number of free schools in the province is merely a ‘switch’ to avoid an ‘unanswerable argument, endorsed by our highest educational authorities.’ Whether the argument be unanswerable or not, is a mere matter of opinion. Moreover this dispute is not to be settled by authorities, but by facts; and to show how useless arguments of the kind contained in his paragraph about the Pilgrims fathers are, I will switch off again by adding one of a similar character on the other side, viz.—that England has never made the free school system the basis of her schools, and yet her people are perhaps the most perfectly educated in the world, and civilly, morally or politically will bear comparison with anything that Maine, Massachusetts, New-York, or any other part of Yankeeedom can produce.

Respectfully Yours,  
BATE PAYER.

### Counties’ Council.

From the City Daily.

#### EQUALIZATION OF THE ASSESSMENTS.

TORONTO, Jan. 31, 1866.

The Counties’ Council met at ten o’clock to-day—the warden in the chair.

#### THE EQUALIZATION OF ASSESSMENTS.

The standing committee on Equalization of Assessments presented its first report as follows:—

1st. That they have carefully examined the assessment rolls of the several municipalities constituting the United Counties, and find them, with some exceptions (which the committee could point out) in a very creditable condition.

2nd. On the Yorkville roll 40 or more pieces of property are entered and numbered and the word amount written on the first column instead of the owner’s name. On the Brampton roll the names of some of the militiamen are inserted on the first column and numbered, though assessed for no property. The district of Etobicoke and Aurora rolls manifest great carelessness on the part of the respective clerks of those municipalities, as an error of 5163 acres in excess of the correct amount is shown on the face of the roll appears in the abstract of the Etobicoke roll. And in the abstract of Aurora the annual value is incorrectly given. On the Vaughan, Scarborough and East Gwillimbury rolls the names of assessed parties are not numbered, and on the Vaughan roll there is no resident property given on the abstract, but none returned on the non-resident roll. On the Scarborough and Toronto rolls the names of several parties appear against the same piece of property, which has a rather doubtful appearance particularly as in some cases the property is very small (but it may be correct). On some rolls the additional line on the militia roll is not used though it should be, in order that the parties’ place of residence may be known. Your committee trust that the attention of these irregularities will be a check in the future.

3rd. The total assessment of the committee shows a falling off to the amount of \$26,977 as compared with last year, \$270,201 of which has been in York, and \$256,776 in the County of Peel. There is also shown an excess of 2,106 acres of assessed land in York, and a decrease of 274 in Peel, leaving a total increase of 1,832 for the counties as compared with last year.

4th. As in previous reports your committee would remark that the mode of a very irregular method of assessing incomes, as some of the most wealthy municipalities return no taxable income and there but seven out of the fifteen township municipalities return any.

5th. Your committee have to the best of their judgment equalized the assessment of the several municipalities, so that they have a just relation one to the other.

6th. The accompanying schedules are of the usual description, showing the assessment and equalized value of the several municipalities, and also the rate per acre at which the township municipalities are equalized.—

COUNTY OF YORK.		
Value.	Equalized Value.	
Etobicoke	\$31,380	\$30 00
Georgetown	246,112	9 00
Gwillimbury (North)	304,324	11 00
Gwillimbury (East)	748,005	17 25
King	1,567,169	13 75
Markham	2,146,443	29 25
Scarboro	1,227,605	27 75
Vaughan	1,996,505	27 75
Whitechurch	1,119,945	16 50
Yorkville (Village)	2,396,523	33 50
Yorkville (Village)	617,356	29 40
Newmarket (Village)	294,400	20 00
Holland Landing	95,240	12 00
Aurora	115,045	10 00
Total County of York	13,496,046	

COUNTY OF PEEL.		
Value.	Equalized Value.	
Albion	\$35,710	13 50
Caldon	791,856	11 00
Chingacousy	2,230,155	26 25
Toronto	2,042,100	30 00
Toronto Gore	569,972	23 00
Brampton (Village)	344,782	27 00
Streetsville (Village)	126,083	10 00
Total County of Peel	\$6,932,258	

Grand Total York & Peel 20,328,304  
The above report was adopted.

#### EDUCATION.

Mr. THOMPSON moved, seconded by Mr. Graham, (Gore) “That the standing committee on education be instructed to report during this session on the proposed amendments by the chief superintendent of education on the school act.” Carried.

Mr. BOUTBEE moved, seconded by Mr. Berrymann, “That the finance committee be instructed to report on a sum of money to be paid the Warden in recognition of his services, and to reimburse him in some degree for the expense he has been put to for the past year.” Carried.

The Council then adjourned till to-morrow.

#### TORONTO, Feb. 1, 1866.

The Council met at ten o’clock to-day—the Warden in the chair.

#### THE JAIL PROPERTY AND WATER LOTS.

The county commissioners on property reported, their report setting forth that in the matter of the water lots and the jail property the Warden had, in accordance with the instructions of Council, proceeded to Ottawa to procure the necessary patents, and whilst there obtained a promise from the Commissioner of Crown Lands that the patents for the water lots should be issued to the counties in the succeeding month of January.

The Council resolved itself into committee of the whole—Mr. Playter in the chair.

The Warden explained that the matter of the patents for the old jail property and the water lots had been discussed by Council for a number of years, and as it was a matter of a good deal of importance the commissioners considered that it should be looked into; and that for that end he should go to Ottawa, He did so, and found that the patents for the jail grounds proper were issued in 1809 or 1819 and had been issued to trustees. The water lots grant was made some years after as late as 1840, but the patents never issued. The city having given a right of way to the Grand Trunk complicated the matter very much. The commissioners, therefore, decided that if the government could not be induced to issue the patents without a reservation of the Grand Trunk right of way, it would be

best to concede that. He had an interview with the crown lands commissioner, and he said at once that this right of way would have to be reserved. Finding it unavoidable he (the warden) had conceded the point, and the commissioner then promised that during the month of January the patents should issue. But there had been no communication from the commissioner since; and if it did not come soon he (the warden) would jog the commissioner’s memory.

The report was passed and the committee rose and reported in Council, where it was ultimately adopted.

Messrs. Parnham and Hartley and the Warden were appointed commissioners of county property.

#### EDUCATION.

Dr. Berrymann brought up the report of the committee on education, upon which the Council resolved itself into committee.

The committee recommended the appointment of several township superintendents, and also recommended that the sum of \$300 be granted to each of the grammar schools in the counties—\$100 in excess of the amount paid last.

Dr. Berrymann supported the increased grant at some length, pointing out the advantage of the grammar schools in the counties, which he trusted would not be considered local, but spread their influence all over the counties.

Mr. Price moved in amendment that the sum of \$200 be granted instead.

Dr. Barnhart contended at considerable length and with much force in favor of a grant of \$300 being allowed. He pointed out that owing to the new grammar school law the standard had been raised, and unless there were a certain number of pupils in the classes the government grant would be withheld. Under these circumstances he thought it would be well to make the schools entirely free in order that a large number of pupils might be encouraged to attend. This could not be done however, unless the grant should be increased this year to \$300. In fact he believed if this were not done the effect would be to close nearly all the grammar schools in the counties. He appealed to the judgment and justice of the members to allow the sum asked for.

Mr. Wallis and Mr. Bull also supported the proposed grant of \$300.

The amendment, however, was put and carried.

Dr. Barnhart—We have spent our eloquence on the desert air. (Laughter)

The committee also reported that a communication had been received from Mr. McGann, superintendent of the deaf and dumb institution in Hamilton, and from the sources of information obtained the committee was of opinion that the pupils from the counties attending the institution had received a great deal of benefit, both morally and intellectually, by being placed under the care of Mr. McGann. The committee would therefore recommend that the sum of \$600 be granted to the institution.

The clause was carried unanimously.

The report as amended was then passed and the committee rose.

When the Warden took the chair, Dr. Barnhart moved, seconded by Dr. Berrymann, “That the report be amended by striking out the sum of \$200 to the grammar schools and the sum of \$300 be inserted instead.”

The amendment was lost. Yeas 9; nays 17.

Dr. Berrymann then moved, seconded by Mr. Boutbee “That the sum of \$200 be struck out and the sum of \$250 inserted instead.”

Mr. Boutbee was sorry that he was not in the Council when the matter came up in the committee, but he hoped the Council would not be hasty in refusing the grant asked for. He then proceeded at some length to advocate an increased grant, inasmuch as the villages in which the grammar schools were located were put to great expense in providing originally school houses and play grounds and he thought the least the townships could do would be to assist more freely in supporting them.

Mr. Thompson considered that there were too many grammar schools in the counties. If three large ones had been established instead of six he thought more efficiency would have been secured.

Mr. Boutbee said it was evident the last speaker had never received the advantages of a grammar school education and was therefore unable to express a proper opinion upon the question.

The amendment was then put and lost.

Dr. Berrymann trusted that the report of the committee would be printed in the annual report as it had been submitted to the Council.

The Warden said he would attend to that. The report was then adopted.

On motion the Council then adjourned.

#### TORONTO, February 2.

The Council met at ten to-day, the warden in the chair.

#### FINANCE AND ASSESSMENT.

The finance committee presented its first report which was considered in committee of the whole. In reference to a communication from the registrar of the county of Peel the committee reported that it could not recommend payment of the claim until proper detailed accounts were furnished, and when such details were furnished that the warden be requested to order payment of the same. As regards the office furniture provided, the committee cannot recommend payment for it, as it would be a dangerous precedent.

The committee recommended payment of \$417 07 on account rendered by the registrar of York.

The committee recommended the appropriation of the following sums to the following charitable institutions:—

Boys’ Home	\$100
Girls’ Home	100
Magdalen Asylum	100
Toronto General Hospital	200

The committee also recommended that no action be taken relative to the petitions of the County Councils of Simcoe and Wellington. Also that the county clerks account for compiling the militia rolls for the clerk of the peace be paid.

The committee could not recommend payment of the account furnished by the registrar of North York, amounting to \$89, for office alterations.

In reference to the communication from the commissioner of crown land department regarding the sale of lands in Holland river marsh for the purpose of draining, the committee are of opinion that the drainage of the marsh would destroy the navigation of the river and seriously affect that of Lake Simcoe and would not therefore recommend the council to dispose of such lands for such purpose, and would recommend that the warden be instructed to communicate with the crown lands department to that effect.

Your committee have much pleasure in stating that the financial affairs of the counties are in a very satisfactory condition. The treasurer’s accounts have been prepared in his usual orderly and correct manner, and from the estimate of the probable expenses and resources it will not be necessary to levy more than \$25,000 to meet the expenses of the present year.

In reference to the resolution requiring the committee to report on the propriety of granting compensation to the warden for extra services performed on behalf of the counties during the past year, the committee after fully considering the subject and daily appreciating the services rendered by the warden, would recommend that the sum of \$200 be granted to him for such extra services.

The committee also recommended payment from time to time of detailed accounts received from the several registrars for work performed by them under the registration act of 1865 by order of the warden.

The report was passed in committee and adopted in council.

#### THE YORK ROADS.

The special committee appointed to report on the York roads reported. In reference to the claim of the Trustees of St. Andrew’s church, the committee carefully considered them, and came to the conclusion that the church property suffered no deterioration from the bridge over the Humber complained of. The bridge has been erected for many years. Moreover the Great Western railway company has a permanent bridge immediately above the county bridge, by consent of the trustee of the church.

The demand of certain ratepayers of the city, that they should be exempt from toll in passing Gate No. 1, Kingston road, the committee are of opinion that it is unreasonable and without legal foundation.

As to the proposition of the deputation from the city council, in the same matter, desiring to commit the tolls for certain ratepayers of the city, residing east of the Dan bridge, the committee, after closely examining into the matter, would state, that while the principal for allowing the city to commute for these parties is perhaps correct yet, the doing so by the county would be attended with so much difficulty and the amount offered by the city is so manifestly inadequate that the committee do not recommend the entertaining of the proposition of the city which would be to commute for these parties for \$250 a year, while the toll they now pay is three times that amount.

Respecting the letter from the superintendent, requesting an increase of salary, the committee closely investigated the management of the roads under his charge and are satisfied not only that the superintendent has devoted great energy and skill in carrying out the work entrusted to him, but that his administration of the affairs of the roads has been most successful, and has tended in no ordinary degree to enhance the value of the property. The success of the enterprise on behalf of the county depends to a great extent on the industry and capacity of the superintendent, and your committee are of opinion that in Mr. Gosage the council possess a most valuable servant, on whose services it is very desirable to retain; and that the salary he at present receives is utterly inadequate to the duties he performs, more especially when it is considered that the actual expenses connected with the office exceed half the present salary.

The report was subsequently amended and the following section of a clause added:—

And with reference to the resolution of the council referring this report back, the committee recommend that the superintendent, Mr. B. W. Gosage, be also appointed county engineer with a salary for both such offices of \$1,500 a year.

Respecting the petition of E. Crown, praying to be relieved from further liability under his lease of gate No. 1 on York street (the petitioners receipts at the gate having fallen \$1,000 short of the rent in six months) while the committee feel that his is a case of great hardship they could not recommend the council to take any action in the matter.

The committee recommended that the salary of the treasurer be increased \$200 a year.

With regard to the petition of Thos. Corford and others, the committee could not recommend that ministers of the Gospel have any further exemption with regard to toll on the York roads when the gates are rented.

The committee would recommend that the plan of letting the repairs of the roads by tender, in sections, be tested as to its advantage and efficiency.

This report was subsequently amended as stated, and also the clause increasing the treasurer’s salary to \$200, which was finally fixed at \$100. The report passed in council with a by-law appointing Mr. George Gosage county engineer, giving him \$1,500 a year for the office, and his office as superintendent of the