Supplement to DURHAM REVIEW.

DECEMBER 15th, 1904.

County Council.

(Continued from last week's Review)

Mr J E Richards, of Dundalk, was permitted to address the council on behalf of his brother, Mr W G Richards, contractor for the house of refuge, and urged upon the council that something be done to recoup him for loss by the contract. Mr Richards presented figures showing that the actual cost of the building was $2,005.78 greater the contract price, and the contractor had nothing for his own labor. The warden informed Mr Richard that the matter would receive the consideration of the council.

Mr Brown moved that By-law 644, regulating the house of refuge be ammended making the county liable for maintenance of all inmates after they are committed to the institution, and that expenses of inmates to and from the house of refuge be borne by the municipality sending the inmate, and that a by-law be introduced to carry this change into effect. The motion was seconded by Mr McColman.

This motion to change the regulations before the institution had been in operation a year met with vigorous opposition, nearly all the members of council spoke on the question and claimed that there was no complaint against the present system of charging each municipality with cost of its people who were among the inmates.

After more than half an hour's discussion, the motion was lost on the following division: Yea—Crown, Doyle, McColman—3. Nay—Allen, Bell, Garvie, McArthur, McKinnon, McLean, Paterson, Preston, Schenck, Shute, Thomson and the warden—12.

On motion of Mr Paterson, the county treasurer, was asked to prepare a detailed statement of the house of refuge up to the present time, to be printed in the minutes for information of the ratepayers, generally.

On motion council adjourned until 7 p. m.

At the Friday evening session Mr Doyle was the only absentee. A belated house of refuge account from J McQuaker & Co was read.

Mr Gordon presented a report of the House of Refuge Committee, the principal recommendation of which was that in reference to account of Minnis Bros. of $95 for electric lighting in the house of refuge, that the council of Markdale be notified that it must carry out the agreement to supply electric current to the house of refuge, and unless action is taken in the matter within fifteen days the county council will take legal means of having this agreement carried into effect.

This clause in the report was discussed at considerable length in committee, with Mr Garvie in the chair. The report was passed without amending the clause.

Another subject which caused discussion was the question of recouping the contractor for the house of refuge for the loss sustained. It was moved by Mr Bell, seconded by Mr McColman that W G Richards be voted $500 to recoup him in part for the loss he had sustained on the contract. In opposing the motion Mr Gordon said it would be an illegal act, and if the money was voted the members of council might be obliged to go down into their own pockets to pay it. He opposed the motion in strong terms. The majority of the members expressed their opposition to the resolution, and when the vote was taken it was lost on the following division: Yea—Bell, McArthur, McColman, McKinnon—4. Nay—Allen, Brown, Garvie, Gordon, McLean, Patterson, Preston, Schenck, Shute, Thomson and the warden—11.

The county treasurer, Mr Parker, furnished the county with a detailed statement which had been asked for at the previous meeting, showing the cost of building and maintaining the house of refuge up to the present time to be slightly in excess of $30,000.

Council adjourned until Saturday at 9 a. m.

The closing meeting of the last session of the present county council term was attended by all the members.

Mr Shute presented report of Roads and Bridges, which contained eighteen clauses and recommended payment of accounts totalling up to $1,185. The report was adopted.

Mr Gordon presented report of County Property, recommending that accounts amounting to $87 be paid. The report was adopted.

Mr Gordon presented report of the House of Refuge Committee, recommending payment of accounts amounting to $75.50; also that the detailed statement

Continued on other side.

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