

County Paupers and County Houses of Industry.

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County of Grey.

Mr. Justice Robertson in his charge to the grand jury at the Assizes in and for the County of Grey, which commenced on Tuesday, March 5th inst., referred to the lamentable fact, according to the calendar handed to him by the sheriff of the county, that no less than thirty of the occupants at present of the county jail were persons committed for no crime known to the law, but because they were old and infirm and unable to support themselves, and because they were what is known to the law as "vagrants." Some of the unfortunates were over 80 years of age, and quite unfit to earn anything towards a living, and the whole, as far as could be ascertained, were actual in-

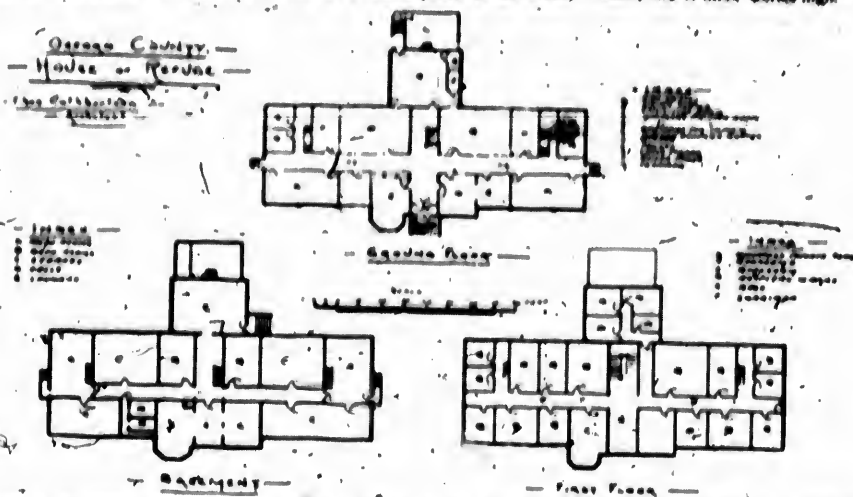
mates of the Government, and we hope that some means may be found at an early date to remedy the state of things which now exists in this county."

(Signed) BRUCE HANCOCK.

Foreman.

County of Wellington.

The House of Industry in this County is located near the town of Eliza. William Carroll, Esq., County Clerk, writes as follows: "The total cost of House, \$10,000. There are 60 acres of land; the institution provides for 80 inmates; the average is 67. There is but one building, built of stone, and is three stories high. The



habitants of the county, and not mere tramps who itinerated from one part of the country to the other. Others of them, who were more or less infirm, could, if they had the opportunity, under proper direction, do much towards their own support. And taking into account the fact that the Government contributed the sum of \$4,000 towards the erection and fitting up of a house of refuge in each municipality for such unfortunates, he expressed the hope that the grand jury would take the subject into their consideration, and give the proper authorities the benefit of their opinion, when they come to make their presentment.

The attention of the grand jury was also drawn to the fact that in this large and wealthy Province, which comprises

and country, without their being afforded an opportunity to contribute towards their own maintenance, as a matter of economy, if there were no higher or philanthropic motive, the buying of a suitable farm and the erection of a house of refuge thereon, might prove a wise and profitable investment.

The grand jury, at the close of the Assizes, referred to the matter in their presentment in the following language:

"We have given our best attention to the question of the expediency of erecting a suitable pothouse in the county. We recognise that the time has come when some steps should be taken in that direction. We agree with your Lordship that it is a reproach to the people of any state or country that those whose only crime is their

cost of maintenance is 24 cents per week per inmate, or, \$1.28, including interest on investment. It is under the management of a Committee appointed by the County Council. The people of the County are highly pleased with the institution."

County of Wellington.

When compared with other similar institutions, the principal difference is in the reported cost per inmate which has been the highest in the Province. Under the present management the rate is being reduced. The appointment of the chairman of committee as inspector is hardly to be recommended, although in this county it has been found to be an improvement: