

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT,
Legislative Council, February, 1859.

Hon. Mr. DeBlaquière moved, that the Petition presented to the House this Session, together with those presented on previous occasions, by Dr. Rees, be referred to a Select Committee.

Hon. Mr. DeBlaquière vindicated the claims of Dr. Rees at considerable length.—The claims of Dr. Rees on the public were of the first importance; it was he who first introduced Lunatic Asylums into Canada, but not until after he had travelled over Europe, (at his own expense), to investigate the various institutions of the kind, and after he had suffered and overcome much opposition. The Asylum established by Dr. Rees was eminently successful, although he had met the greatest opposition in establishing it."

Hon. Col. Prince was glad of the notice, since it would keep Dr. Rees' claim, already admitted by former Committees to be a just one, before the House; there is no doubt it ought long since to have been settled, as recommended in their Resolution and Address to the Governor General, from the occurrence of the injuries—injuries, as amply shewn by the evidence, had nearly proved fatal, and which to the present moment has seriously affected the health of the Doctor, who in redeeming the country, devoid of institutions of the kind, had sacrificed the whole of his private means, together with his valuable professional life, to the benefit of the public.

The Hon. Mr. Allan, and other gentlemen, pressed upon the attention of Government the claims of Dr. Rees.

C. E. J. DELMAGE, Staff-surgeon, to Dr. HERRICK.

YORK STREET, August 16th, 1852.

MY DEAR DOCTOR,—The accompanying papers were sent for my perusal by Dr. Rees, with a request that they should then be sent on to you. I feel assured it is not at all necessary for me to add any suggestion which could stimulate your natural kindness or personal exertion on behalf of anybody, much less in the execution of a kind office towards him who, appears, from all I can discover, a gentleman greatly neglected by those in power, yet one whose services deserve at their hands more compassionate and *substantial* treatment.

Believe me, most sincerely yours,

C. C. J. DELMAGE.

Bishop of Toronto to Sir A. N. MACNAB, Bart.

TORONTO, November 27, 1860.

MY DEAR SIR,—Now that you have returned to public life, I bring before you the case of Dr. Rees; I need not enter into particulars, as I believe you are better acquainted with them from the proceedings of the Legislature, and your own inquiries, than I am. It is enough for me to state that he has been struggling for many years to obtain redress, and now that his means are wasted away he requires assistance more than ever. The investigation made in his case establish two points; 1st, That while in the public service, he was so much injured as to become unable to follow his profession so as to earn a respectable living; 2nd, That the scanty aid granted him was small and temporary and did not meet his necessity. He requires help in the shape of a moderate pension, for I believe his resources are entirely exhausted, and to attempt to return to his profession useless. The various documents he possesses, and especially the proceedings of the House of Assembly, will more than justify the Government in granting him a competency during the remainder of his life; refresh your memory by glancing over his documents, and suffer me to prevail on you to commence your career as a public man by procuring for Dr. Rees tardy justice.*

JOHN TORONTO.

* The temporary aid referred to, was barely equal to half a year's salary of that of the Medical Superintendent of the Asylum, and not half per cent. on the vast sums saved to the Province by the Petitioner, no less in the selection of an appropriate site for the permanent building, in place of the one he caused to be abandoned, than in the general economy of the institution. The entire medical and surgical duties of which he performed without any medical assistant.