

# SURVEY AND ESTIMATE

## *Of the Court House Buildings, St. John's,*

*St. John's, 4th July, 1833.*

**S**IR,—Agreeably to your directions, we, the undersigned, have surveyed and minutely examined the Court House, High-Sheriff's and Gaoler's departments, Offices, and surrounding fences in this Town, and have now to submit the following Report:—

The roof of the Building is generally in a very defective state; many of the slates are blown off; the lead in the Gutters, on the hips, and round the chimnies very defective; the ceilings and wood work much injured by the rain and drift, and many parts of the exterior, but chiefly the Basement of the West wing, and around the entrance doors in a state of decay.

The surrounding palisade fence almost entirely down, the part which remains, so much decayed, and forced by the pressure of the soil, as to require its being newly erected, the wood stockade which supports the terrace at the eastern end also decayed, and forced out by the great pressure against it, requiring to be now taken down, and substituted by a stone retaining wall.

The western entrance Gates require being repaired or renewed.

The Gaoler's apartments require a new floor in the Kitchen, the hearth new laid, the kitchen range taken out, repaired, and reset, a new floor in the Lobby, the Plaistering repaired, the ceilings repaired and whitened, the Bed Rooms papered and the whole of the wood work painted.

The Prisons are generally in good condition, and only require to have the Iron gratings of the Doors repaired and a grate or stove set in the Debtors' cell.

In the High Sheriff's apartments the wood work requires to be painted, two Rooms and the Hall, to be new papered, the Kitchen and Lobby ceilings repaired and whitened, repair the Kitchen Fire place, sash fastners, weights lines, and Locks throughout the House to be examined and repaired, lay a bed of Joists and new floor in Cellar, repair the mason work, lime wash it, and fix up the shelves or Binns—the roof of the entrance porch to be covered with Sheet Lead, and the roof of the scullery repaired.

In the Court Hall to repair and whiten the ceiling, colour the sides and paint the wood work.

Judges chamber, to repair and whiten the ceiling, examine and repair the sashes and make good the plaistering in the closet.

Entrance Hall and Lobby, stop and whiten the ceilings, repair the Stair and Ballustrade, take out and reset the stove.

In the Clerk of Supreme Court's office it is required to set a new Grate, whiten the ceiling and paint the wood work.

The Office of Clerk of the Central Circuit Court requires to have a new Grate, the ceiling repaired and whitened and the wood work painted—it would also require to have the pannelled partition altered and the Clerk's desk brought in front of the window.

The Sessions Court requires the Ceiling to be repaired and whitened, the sides coloured and the wood work painted. The Jury Room to have part of the ceiling taken down and newly done, reset the Grate, whiten the ceiling, colour the sides and paint the wood work.

The Police Office and Lobby to have the ceilings repaired and whitened, the sides coloured and the wood painted

The Doors, Locks, Sashes, Fastners and Lines throughout the Court and Offices require being examined and repaired.

The whole of the wood work on the exterior requires being new painted.

The tops of the Chimnies require to be repaired, Cowels set on, and the *Chimney* of the Sessions Court taken down to the Roof and rebuilt, with a dormer to the back of it reaching inwards upon the hip of the Roof.

The slates covering the Court House Building, are much too light for this climate, they have been set with Iron nails and frequently blown off by the high winds, the roof at present appears to be in such a state as to render it necessary to have by far the greater part of it new covered, with larger slates, fastened on by copper or composition nails.