

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CORPORATION ACCOUNTS.

The Committee to whom were referred the Corporation Accounts, as also the Accounts of the Chamberlain, as Receiver for the Trustees of Corporation Properties, made up to the 31st December, 1846, beg leave to submit the following REPORT.

A. Is the General Account of L. DONALDSON, Esquire, Mayor of the City of Saint John, to the 31st December, 1846.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes items like 'Private Fees collected', 'Licences', 'Cart do.', 'Retail do.', 'Licences to carry on Business', 'Fines on various heads', 'Licences to People of Color', 'Fees for Landlord and Tenants', 'Do. on Appointments, received from the Common Clerk', 'Total Receipts at the Mayor's Office in 1846', 'Balance due the City, December 31, 1846'.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'He Credits—Payments made to the Chamberlain, Mayor's Salary for the Year', 'Amount paid the Common Clerk as Fees', 'Balance due the City of Saint John'.

This Account is correctly stated, and the sums charged as paid to the Chamberlain are duly credited by that Officer.

B.—1 to 3—Are the Accounts of THOMAS MERRITT, Esquire, Chamberlain of the City, with the Corporation, made up to the 31st December, 1846.

No. 1. Is an account of Monies paid and received on Watch, Lamp, and Scavenger Account paid Watchmen, Rent of Watch House, &c.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'Amount paid Watchmen, Rent of Watch House, &c.', 'Amount paid for Lighting the Streets, viz. Oil, Wages, Repairs, &c.', 'Amount paid for Cleaning Streets, and Assessor's Fees'.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'The Chamberlain Credits—Balance on hand December 31, 1845', 'Amount received from James Gerow, Jun., Collector of Taxes, during the Year ending 31st December, 1846', 'Amount received from James Gerow, Jr., Collector of Taxes, being for balance in his hands, December 31, 1845'.

No. 2. Is a statement of the amounts paid and received on Statute Labour account, viz. payment for Repairs and Improvements on Streets, South and North Market Streets, &c.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'Balance in hands of the Chamberlain', 'Amount received from James Gerow, Jun., Collector of Taxes, during the Year ending 31st December, 1846', 'Amount received from James Gerow, Jr., Collector of Taxes, during the Year ending 31st December, 1846'.

No. 3. Is a statement of the amounts received and paid on Fire Department account, viz. Paid for 600 feet new Hose, Repairs to Hose, Painting and Repairing Engines, Assessor's Fees, &c.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'The Chamberlain Credits—Amount received from James Gerow, Jr., Collector of Taxes, during the year', 'Balance in hands of the Chamberlain'.

C.—No. 1 to 6.—Are the Accounts of THOMAS MERRITT, Esquire, Receiver for the Trustees of Corporation Properties, made up to the 31st December, 1846.

No. 1. Is a particular statement of Corporation Rents collected for the year ending 31st December, 1846, amounting to the sum of £2,920 3 0

No. 2. Is a statement of Monies received on account of Corporation Revenues leased at Auction for the year ending 31st March, 1847, and of arrearages due on former years, amounting to £1,451 5 0

No. 3. Is an Interest Account made up to the 31st December, 1846.—Amount of Interest paid on various heads, £321 0 6

The Chamberlain Credits—Interest received from sundry persons, £72 13 1

Balance charged in account current, £248 7 5

No. 4. Is a particular account of payments made for sundry services for the year ending 31st December, 1846, pursuant to the orders of the Common Council and the Trustees, amounting to £1,126 13 8

He Credits—Amount received from His Worship the Mayor, being surplus of a Treasury Warrant, £0 7 6

Balance charged in account current, £1,126 6 2

No. 5. Is an account of Monies paid and received on account of the various Markets. The Chamberlain Credits—Paid sundry Repairs and Insurance, £15 15 2

And Credits—Amounts received on this account, £86 14 7

Balance transferred to Credit in account, £10 19 7

No. 6. Is Mr. Merritt's General Account Current, as Receiver, with the Trustees of Corporation Properties, to 31st December, 1846, as follows:—

1846—Dec. 31.—To amount deposited at the Bank of British North America, in the Credit of the Trustees, during the year ending this date, per Bank Book, £4,750 7 8

Payments made for various services during the year, per order of the Common Council and Trustees, £1,326 6 2

Balance of Interest Account, £321 0 6

Amount of Corporation small Notes destroyed during the year, per Committee's receipts, £14 0 0

The Chamberlain's Salary, to date, £250 0 0

The Lead Agent's Salary, £50 0 0

Balance transferred to new Account, £55 16 7

By Balance in new Account, £6,657 11 10

He Credits—By Balance on hand 31st December, 1845, £78 14 1

Amount received from His Worship the Mayor, during the year, £1,770 0 0

Corporation Rents collected, £2,920 3 0

Balance of Market Accounts, £819 9 7

The following Sums received on Barnet District account, viz:—

From James Gerow, Jun., Collector of Taxes, £13 1 11

Charles Johnston, amount of Assessment on property belonging to the Estate of the late Hugh Johnson, Esquire, £5 0 0

Sundry Fees paid in by Alderman Porter, £22 1 11

Do. do. by Alderman Smith, £11 3 6

Do. do. by Alderman Harding, £9 9 0

By balance brought down, transferred to new Account, £2,687 11 10

These Accounts with the Vouchers, have been examined and found correct, and are made up in a clear and methodical manner.

D. No. 1 to 4.—Are the Accounts of James Gerow, Junior, Collector of Taxes, from the 31st December, 1845, to the 31st December, 1846.

No. 1.—Is an Account for the Watch, Lamp, and Scavenger Assessment, in which he charges—

Warrant, £29 18 1

Tax Books, £9 9 9

Stationery, £1 5 9

Commission on £2017 lbs. 5s. at 6 per cent., £61 6 6

Amount of Defenders for 1846, £12 19 9

Balance to new Account, £72 6 4

He Credits—Balance per Account, December 31, 1845, £208 18 1

Amount from Defenders for 1846, £3 0 11

Do. do. for 1845, £2 3 7

By Balance in new Account, £212 17 5

By Balance in new Account, £276 6 4

No. 2.—Is his Account of Monies received and paid on Account of Road Assessment.

He Charges—Amount paid Thomas Merritt, Esquire, Chamberlain, £1 0 0

Cost paid for Warrant, £10 0 0

Property of Printing, £1 0 0

Do. of do. to H. Chubb & Co. £10 0 0

Stationery, £1 0 0

Henry Porter, Esquire, costs for proceed, £10 0 0

W. O. Smith, for ditto, £10 0 0

Commission on £1035 lbs. 10s. at 6 per cent., £62 3 4

Balance carried down, £80 9 4

He Credits—Balance, as per Account, December 31, 1845, £59 9 6

Amount collected from Defenders for 1844, £14 6 7

Do. do. Defenders for 1845, £10 0 0

Do. do. on Assessment of 1846, £171 11 3

Balance carried to new Account, £280 9 4

No. 3.—Is an Account of Monies paid and received on Fire Department Assessment.

He Charges—Cash paid the Chamberlain, £227 10 0

Stationery, &c., £10 11 0

Commission on £245 10s. 4d. at 6 per cent., £14 14 1

Amount of Defenders, per list, £14 11 0

Balance carried down, £3 0 6

And Credits—Amount of Assessment for 1846, £280 9 4

By balance to new Account, £280 9 4

No. 4.—Is his Account of Monies received and paid on Barnet District Account.

He Charges—Cash paid the Chamberlain, £13 1 11

And Credits—Balance, per Account rendered, December 31, 1845, £13 1 11

The amounts charged as paid over to the Chamberlain, are duly credited in that Officer's Accounts.

The Accounts are made up in a satisfactory manner—the necessary Vouchers are produced and found correct, and are herewith.

E.—Is the Account of James Peters, Junior, Esquire, Common Clerk, for the year ending 31st December, 1846.

He Credits—Fees received and receivable by him as Common Clerk of the City, £102 2 0

This Officer's Account is made up in a satisfactory manner, and rendered under Oath. His Salary allowed by the Board being £500 per annum, there is a balance remaining due that Officer, of £47 17s. 6d. to the 31st December last.

F.—Is the Account Current of the Trustees of Corporation Properties, for the year ending 31st December, ultimo.

They Charge—July 17.—To amount paid the Arbitrator in Mr. Partelow's case, £188 5 4

July 9.—To amount placed to the credit of the Receiver, for the purpose of paying the Bondholders 2 1/2 per cent., £480 11 6

November 20.—To do. do. £480 11 6

December 21.—Balance on hand, £19 4 4

And Credits—£2169 17 8

1846—January 1.—By Balance from last year's Account, £418 10 0

Dec. 31.—Amount deposited by Thomas Merritt, Esq., Receiver, to the Bank of British North America, during the past year, £750 7 8

Balance transferred to new Account, £2169 17 8

W. M. WRIGHT, } TRUSTEES.  
A. SMITHERS, }  
HIGH JOHNSTON, }

Saint John, N. B., December 31, 1846.

In closing their Report on the Accounts of the past year, your Committee would congratulate the Board and the Corporation generally, on the generally good state of the Corporation Revenue.

The amount of Rents collected by the Chamberlain, out of the Corporation Revenue, under the Mayor's Office, exceed that of former years, and the Rent Roll can still be very materially increased, so soon as certain matters now in progress of arrangement are completed.

The last Session of the Legislature, an Act was passed (10th Vic. cap. 23) authorizing the Common Council to assess the inhabitants in a sum not exceeding One Thousand Pounds, to make up any deficiency in five per cent. interest on the Corporation debt.

Your Committee are happy to state that this interest has been properly paid, and that the Corporation are happy to state that this interest has been properly paid, and that the Corporation are happy to state that this interest has been properly paid.

No money has been received from the Steam Ferry Boats during the past year, the whole income derived therefrom having been required to meet their current expenses, and to put them in a state to be ready to start, should the present year will amply compensate for the deficit of the past.

The Accounts in Detail are herewith submitted; and your Committee recommend that they be published in pamphlet form, for the use of the Corporation.

Your Committee have no doubt, that with prudent management, good faith may be kept with the public Creditor, the Debt gradually diminished, and ultimately liquidated. All which is respectfully submitted.

F. O. SMITH, } COMMITTEE.  
THOMAS HARDING, }

Saint John, January 29th, 1847.

MEETING OF THE CHURCH SOCIETY.

The Diocesan Church Society of New Brunswick held its eleventh annual meeting on the evening of Tuesday, 21st January, 1847, in the Hall of the Mechanics Institute in St. John.

The meeting was most interesting and respectfully attended. The Hall being everywhere filled. The Lord Bishop of Fredericton, President of the Society, was in the chair, supported by the Hon. the Chief Justice, the Hon. A. E. Balfour, the Hon. the Attorney General, the Hon. J. W. Roberts, J. Doreau, T. W. Robertson, W. N. Beyer, J. Elwell and K. Simonds.

The Secretary, the Rev. Mr. Partelow, presided over the evening by moving that the Lord Bishop should take the chair; and his Lordship having taken the chair, addressed the meeting in considerable length, and to great applause.

The Secretary then read the Lord Bishop's address, and the minutes of the last year's meeting. The Secretary then read the Lord Bishop's address, and the minutes of the last year's meeting.

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THE OBSERVER.

St. John, Tuesday, February 2, 1847.

REPLY FOR IRELAND AND SCOTLAND.—We rejoice, in common with our contemporaries, that the attention of our countrymen has been called to the inconceivable destitution that exists in Ireland and the Highlands of Scotland—the misery which have attended the failure of the potato crop are no longer doubted by any, but believe the record of the County of Mayo alone, to have the record of no less than eight deaths by starvation within a few days.

There are many other accounts equally distressing from other parts of Ireland and Scotland. Private benevolence, although freely bestowed, has been found altogether inadequate to stay the wide-spread famine. We therefore hail with pleasure the Meeting to take place in the Court House to-day, called by our Sheriff, in accordance with a respectable requisition got up through the praiseworthy efforts of Major Poyntz, who has received by last mail, a circular statement detailing great distress in the parish of Templemore (which will be found in another column); and we sincerely trust that, combined with efforts of a more private character, a large Provincial Grant may be obtained to assist in alleviating the sufferings and wretchedness of our fellow subjects, or it is to be feared that crime will increase with the increase of this awful calamity.

We hear frequently of Concerts and Tea Meetings for charitable purposes. Might not something of the kind be adopted on the present occasion, with beneficial results?

We have learned, since the above was in type, that the Meeting to-day was respectfully attended. His Worship the Mayor occupied the Chair. Several Gentlemen brought forward details, showing the strong claims our suffering fellow countrymen have on our generous attention to succour them in their time of need. Resolutions were adopted to petition the Legislature for a Provincial Grant; that Subscriptions be taken up by Committees in the different Wards of the City;—that Clergymen be requested to make Collections in their respective Churches;—and that Ministers in different parts of the Province, should likewise be solicited to aid in the charitable work. The proceedings, we understand, are to be published in full.

IRISH GENEALOGY.—We have learned with much pleasure that a number of the prominent class of natives of Ireland, residing in the city and vicinity, remitted to their friends in Ireland, by the mail for Britain, on Saturday, (through the Bank) a sum of money, from five pounds and upwards, amounting in the aggregate to above £700 Sterling. The drafts are drawn on the Provincial Bank of Ireland. These acts of benevolence are stated to have been performed by those who apparently were the least able to part with so much of their hard earnings. We trust that those who are blessed with larger portions of this world's goods, will go on doing likewise.

SAMARITAN SOCIETY.—We wish to draw the attention of our readers to this Association, and to the great benefit that might be derived from it to our community, if properly supported. The Samaritan Society was commenced about fourteen months since, by a few benevolent individuals, whose numbers soon began to increase, solely by the knowledge of the good they were effecting; but they did not proclaim their good deeds before men, this increase was of course very gradual, their good works being restrained by their limited means. The number of their subscribers has considerably increased since the winter, and many families resort to such assistance. This Act also precludes the Corporation from incurring any further debt, until that now due by the Corporation is paid off. It is, therefore, almost unnecessary to state, that no money has been borrowed by the Board during the past year.

No money has been received from the Steam Ferry Boats during the past year, the whole income derived therefrom having been required to meet their current expenses, and to put them in a state to be ready to start, should the present year will amply compensate for the deficit of the past.

The Accounts in Detail are herewith submitted; and your Committee recommend that they be published in pamphlet form, for the use of the Corporation.

Your Committee have no doubt, that with prudent management, good faith may be kept with the public Creditor, the Debt gradually diminished, and ultimately liquidated. All which is respectfully submitted.

F. O. SMITH, } COMMITTEE.  
THOMAS HARDING, }

Saint John, January 29th, 1847.

MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Yesterday being the day appointed by Proclamation for the meeting of the Legislature, at a quarter past 2 o'clock, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and suite arrived in state at the Province Building, where he was received by a guard of honour of the Militia, and proceeded to the Council Chamber, where he was met by the members of the Council, and the members of the Executive Council, who were all in uniform. His Excellency desired them to return and choose a Speaker.

The Members having returned to the Lower House, proceeded to Elect a Speaker, Mr. Partelow rose and addressing the Clerk said, that as the House had been commanded by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to Elect a Speaker, Mr. Partelow would now propose John Wesley Weldon, as a proper person to fill that office. In 1843 he had the honor of making the same nomination, at which time he had alluded to the upright and honorable character of Mr. Weldon, and his general fitness for the situation, and he was occupied to honorable Members, whether the character which he had then given him had not been well sustained. In proposing the same gentleman in the present instance, he wished the nomination to be understood as totally irrespective of party Politics; and hoped that the vote in his favour would be unanimous. Here Mr. Partelow alluded to the charge in English was made totally irrelevant, and he was elected by a large majority.

Mr. Fisher next rose and observed, that as he understood the language of the honorable Member (Mr. Partelow), it was intended that the present choice of Mr. Weldon should be made totally irrespective of Politics;—(Yes) from Mr. Partelow; (Mr. F.) knew that such had been the course pursued in England in the selection of the present Speaker of the House of Commons, who although a Whig, had been chosen by a conservative majority; and also in the case of Mr. Manning Binton, who was elected in the first Reform Parliament by the Whigs. It would be remembered that on the last occasion, the honorable Member from Saint John had nominated the Speaker as a conservative, and it had, in that way been placed upon the journals, as he (Mr. F.) thought, improperly. If it were now to be understood that the choice of Speaker should be made without the slightest reference to a political question, and to be thereafter considered in that light,—(yes) from several Mr. Fisher would not object to such an arrangement; it was true that he differed politically with the learned Member from Kent; but as all considerations of party nature were excluded, he should make no objection; and in these sentiments, although not acting alone on his own responsibility, he believed a large majority of honorable Members concurred.

Mr. Rankin briefly seconded the nomination, adding his testimony to the high estimation the members of the Legislature held very justly bestowed on Mr. Weldon, for the able and respectable manner in which he had presided over the last House.

His Honor was then led to the Chair by Messrs. Partelow and Rankin, after which he briefly stated that he was deeply sensible of the honor conferred upon him, in his selection as Speaker; and that it should ever be his study to preserve in the honest and conscientious discharge of his duties; calling for that purpose to his assistance, the experience which he had previously gained; and hoping for that kind allowance and assistance which every one in his situation might require. He would ever cherish the deep obligation which had been conferred on him, through the unanimity which had been manifested in his election.

Afterwards the opening Speech of His Excellency was read by the Speaker from the Chair. The House then