

property, rich enough to defray their expenses in attending the legislative sittings, an indemnity has been given for their attendance.—In Nova Scotia, town members as well as county members receive compensation for their services; in the whole of the present United States, where the principle of a free representation is well understood, an indemnity is allowed by the constituent to him whom he delegates to the Legislature; in England it was the ancient practice to give members of parliament wages, and the people are petitioning for its renewal, although from the comparatively large number of men of great wealth and independence of sentiment it must be less necessary there than in a colony.

*First Report.*

Village representation law ought to be modified or repealed.

Your committee are of opinion, that the law authorizing certain villages to send each one member as soon as they severally contain one thousand souls ought either to be repealed or so modified as to include the township or tract of country next adjoining, in order that no town member might represent less than 4000 souls. When Lower Canada adopted our legislative principle of subdividing great counties and allowing one member to counties containing 1000 souls, and two representatives to counties containing 4000, she left out of the scheme our provision in favor of village members without wages.

The counties of Lincoln and York are divided, the former into four and the latter into two ridings. The 1st riding of Lincoln consists of the townships of Gainsboro', Canboro', Caistor, Clinton and Grimsby, with a population of 4470. The second riding consists of the townships of Louth, Grantham and Niagara, the population of which exclusive of the town of Niagara, is 4892. The third riding is composed of Stamford, Pelham and Thorold, with a population of 4204; and the 4th consists of Bertie, Crowland, Humberstone, Wainfleet and Willoughby, these townships containing 4848 souls.

Proposed division of counties of York and Lincoln.

The two ridings of the county of York are the West and East, the former consisting of the townships of Albion, Caledon, Chinguacousy, and the Gore of Toronto, with a population of a little over 3000, the latter containing the remainder of the shire, with upwards of 20,000 inhabitants. Had the last county election for York been by ridings, it certainly would not have had a tendency to remove the inequality of the representation, but would have increased it.

York County.