

laid before you. I have also considered this case, and am of opinion the Council should repay to him the which he paid—\$99 45 with interest on the 10th of October, 1860.

recommended the payment of interest on the above cases, not only because it is allowed in the case of Street, but also on the general principle, although the giving of interest in this sort is, in the event of the question disputed in a court of law, strictly a matter for a jury to decide. Still it is universally given; and as the Council have the use of the money since it was only equitable that they should pay the legal rate of interest.

I received a copy of a Petition to the Assembly from the County of Haldimand, praying for legislation upon the Unpatented Lands, which will also be before you. Also a communication from the County of Haldimand, relative to a money on a public road, lying opposite the 6th concessions of the Township of Wensley.

GAOL CLOTHING, ETC.

I have the pleasure to announce for the information of the Council, that the matting for the Court, the clothing, blankets, and other articles required for the Gaol, have been purchased in compliance with your instructions. The purchase of these articles has entailed a considerable expenditure, and has been in accordance with the orders issued by the Government Inspectors, it appeared to me that the expense should be borne by the Province, therefore, prepared and forwarded through the Government Auditors, a statement in detail, showing the amounts claimed by this Council to be reimbursed of which I will also lay before you.

OF INDUSTRY AND REFUGE.

At the meetings of this Council I endeavored to direct the attention of its members to the necessity of making some provision for the support and maintenance of the poor in the County, either by the erection of Almshouses, or by the establishment of Industrial Farms, with Houses of Refuge attached to them; and in the motion brought forward on the subject, I suggested that each municipality should be required to contribute to the support of these establishments in proportion to the number of paupers at by them respectively. As you will be aware, I did not succeed in obtaining the sanction of the County Council to the scheme proposed at the 3rd Session of the 11th month, having again brought up the subject so far successful as to get a resolution affirming the necessity of some system being adopted, and agreeing to refer the matter to the Legislature upon the sub-

ject, therefore indispensably necessary; and the experience of the past has taught us that such a force may be so constituted as to be in the highest degree efficient against an enemy, and, yet at the same time obsequious to the Civil Magistrate. It is true that at present there may be no immediate danger of war or invasion; but we know not how soon either of these calamities may assail us; and, although I firmly believe that in no portion of the Great Empire to which it is our pride and boast to belong, can be found better or more reliable material, out of which to form an effective military force, yet we cannot close our eyes to the fact that without having been drilled to military movements, and without instruction in the use of arms, our militiamen would prove but a feeble barrier to the advance of a regularly disciplined force. The occasional soldier is no match for the professional one.

I will not now trespass upon your attention by any further reference to this most important matter; but will conclude by again expressing the pleasure I felt in learning that some action had been taken by the Government and the Legislature on this subject; and most heartily uniting in the feeling expressed by His Excellency, the Governor General, at the prorogation of Parliament, when he said that he rejoiced to think, that in making provision for the maintenance of a Volunteer force, the Legislature had expressed their assent to the principle that the defence of their institutions, their homes, and their altars, against foreign attacks, is a duty incumbent on the inhabitants of this Province.

I have also to lay before you, the Reply to a Memorial of this Council, addressed to His Excellency, the Governor General, in Council, on the subject of a Harbor of Refuge on the north shore of Lake Erie.

And, now, Gentlemen of the County Council, in submitting these, with such other matters as may incidentally arise, for your consideration, I would add one more, nothing doubting but that you will give it due consideration.

PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.

You are, by law, authorized to aid Agricultural and other Societies. The agricultural interests of Canada are of the utmost importance. Permit me, therefore, to request your assistance in aid of our own County Society, by doing which you will directly contribute to the success of the Great Provincial Exhibition, which will take place at Toronto in September next, and be assured that no better means can be devised for developing the resources and wealth of our noble Province, and attracting to it that which is the real bone and sinew of a country—I mean an industrious, moral, and law-abiding people.

WM. M. WILSON,
Warden.

Simcoe, 16th June, 1862.

W. M. Wilson

W. M. Wilson