

“As the object of the appointment of the Commission is to investigate generally all matters of public interest connected with the several departments, this Committee will understand that they are not restricted to limit their inquiries by the strict letter of the foregoing queries, but that in the spirit of the same they are to pursue any course of investigation which may appear to them expedient.”

To investigate generally on all matters connected with the Public Departments.

In pursuing the line of investigation marked out for its guidance in the instructions of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, this Committee has extended its inquiries as widely as the time at its disposal will admit.

Inquiries extended as time would permit.

The subjects referred to the Committee naturally divide themselves into three heads. It is proposed under the first to consider the office of Sheriff, and how far the present system and management may be susceptible of improvement, and whether it may not be found necessary to extend additional protection to that officer when acting in the due and faithful discharge of his duties.

Whether additional protection to Sheriffs be necessary.

Under the second head, the state of the public Gaols and the discipline by which they are governed, will claim the attention of the Committee, and

State of Gaols will claim the attention of Committee.

Thirdly, the office of the Clerk of the Crown and Pleas will be noticed with a view to the general system under which that department is regulated,—and whether any modification can be adopted therein, with advantage to the public service.

Whether beneficial modification can be made in department of Clerk of Crown and Pleas.