

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CORPORATION ACCOUNTS. For the Year ending 31st December, 1852.

The Committee to whom was referred the Corporation Accounts, and also the Accounts of the Chamberlain as Receiver for the Trustees of Corporation Properties, made up to the 31st December, A. D. 1852, to report thereon, beg leave to submit the following

RESPONSE

A. Nos. 1, 2 and 3—Are the Accounts of THOMAS HARDING, Esq., late Mayor.

No. 1—Is his Account for the Quarter ending 31st March, in which he Debits—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Salary, 3 months, at £400 per annum; And Credits—Amount received for Freedoms, Licences, Appointments, &c.

No. 2—Is his Account from the 1st day of April to the 5th day of May, 1852, inclusive, at £400 per annum.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Cash paid the Chamberlain; And Credits—Amount received for Freedoms, Licences, Appointments, &c.

No. 3—Is his Supplementary Account, rendered on the 25th day of May, 1852, in which he Credits—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Amount received from William Hutchinson; And Debits—Cash paid the Chamberlain.

The balance of £43 9s. 1d. shown as due the City in Account A. No. 1, was paid over to the Chamberlain on the 21st April 1852, and the several amounts charged as paid the Chamberlain are credited in his Officer's Account.

B. No. 1 to 3—Are the Accounts of WILLIAM O. SMITH, Esquire, Mayor, ending 31st December, 1852.

No. 1—Is his Account from the 1st day of May to the 30th June, inclusive. He debits—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Cash paid the Chamberlain; Salary, 56 days, at £300 per annum; And Credits—Amounts received for Freedoms, Licences, Appointments, &c.

No. 2—Is his Account ending 30th September, 1852, in which he Charges—Cash paid the Chamberlain.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Salary, three months; And Credits—Amounts received for Licences, Freedoms, &c.

No. 3—Is his Account ending 31st December, 1852, in which he Charges—Cash paid the Chamberlain.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Salary; And Credits—Amounts received from Freedoms, Licences, Fees, &c.

The Accounts of His Worship the Mayor are made up in his usual systematic manner. The amounts charged as paid to the Chamberlain, are duly credited by that Officer.

The net receipts of the Mayor's Office, after deducting salary, and fees collected on account of the Common's Lark, amount to £200 19s. 7d., and afford an increase over the corresponding period of 1851, of £200 19s. 7d., and afford a tangible proof of the unwearied attention and assiduity of His Worship to the duties of his office.

C. No. 1 to 4—Are the Quarterly Accounts of GEORGE WHEELER, Esquire, Common Clerk, ending 31st December, 1852.

No. 1—Is his Account ending 31st March. He Credits—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Receipts from the City Court and Fees of Office; And Debits—Salary for same period.

No. 2—Is his Account ending 30th June. He Credits—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Receipts from the City Court and Fees of Office; And Debits—Salary for the Quarter.

No. 3—Is his Account ending 30th Sept. He Credits—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Receipts from the City Court and Fees of Office; And Debits his Salary for the same period.

No. 4—Is his Account ending 31st Dec., 1852. He Credits—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Receipts from the City Court and Fees of Office; And Debits—Salary for Quarter ending 31st Dec. 1852.

This balance was paid by the Chamberlain, and will appear in his Accounts for the year 1853.

The Account of the Common Clerk are perfectly satisfactory—the surplus of the year is £28 13s. 5d.—Your Committee have much pleasure in stating that the duties of the Office continue to receive every attention.

D. No. 1 to 8—Are the Accounts of THOMAS MERRITT, Esquire, Chamberlain, with the Corporation, for the year ending 31st December, 1852.

No. 1—Is an Account of Monies paid and received on Watch, Lamp and Scavenger Assessment, and from the Police Magistrate.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Cleaning Streets—King's Ward; Queen's do.; Duke's do.; Sidney do.; Assessors; Lighting the Streets; And Credits.

No. 2—Is a statement of Amounts paid and received on Statute Labour Account, viz:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Payments for Repairs to Streets, King's Ward; Queen's do.; Duke's do.; Sidney do.; Guy's do.; Brook's do.; Road Surveyors, on account; City Surveyor; Assessors; King's Square; Queen's do.

No. 3—Is a Statement of Amounts paid and received on Fire Department Account.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Charges—Paid various expenses on this account; And Credits—By balance on hand 31st Dec. 1851; Amount received from Jas. Gerow, Jr., Collector of Taxes, Eastern side, 1852; Do. from Charles Pidgeon, Collector, Western side; Do. for entering Drains.

Chas. Pidgeon, Collector of Taxes, West side, 31 16 10; Jas. Gerow, Jr., do. East side, 1039 4 7

Balance on hand, £133 9 3

No. 4—Is his Account of Money in hand from Mill-Street Assessment, £0 10 3

No. 5—Is a Statement of Monies paid and received on account of Fishery Draft.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Charges—Paid Overseers of Fisheries, Directors, &c.; Paid S. K. Foster and John Sears; Commission on £239 5s.; Do. on £1067 5s.; Balance.

No. 6—Is a Statement of Amounts paid and received on Water Loan Account.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Charges—Paid Interest on Debentures; Assessors; James Sage's tax remitted; And Credits—Received from James Stockford; Received by the Directors for entering names for draft on East side; Do. from Alderman Danism, West side.

No. 7—Is a Statement of Amounts paid and received on Ferry Steam Boat Account.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Charges—Paid for Coals; A new Boiler and Plan; Wages and Labour; Repairs to Boats and Floats; Drawing Files; Supplies for Boats and Floats; And Credits—Balance on hand 31st Dec. 1851; Amount from John McSweeney, four months' rent; From H. B. Crosby, 8 months' rent; W. M. Smith, for towing; T. McCarthy, for old Boiler.

No. 8—Is a Statement of Monies paid and received on account of Reed's Point Improvements.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Charges—Paid to Geo. Stackhouse, on account; Tho. Coram, Superintendent; R. C. Minette, Surveying, &c.; Interest on Debentures; Advertising; And Credits—Balance on hand 31st Dec. 1851; By Cash received for 36 Debentures, £100 each.

E. No. 1 to 6—Are the Accounts of THOMAS MERRITT, Esquire, Receiver for the Trustees of Corporation Properties, made up to 31st December, 1852.

No. 1—Is a Particular Statement of Corporation Rents collected for the year, and of arrearages of Rents, £3239 3 0

No. 2—Is a Statement of Monies received on account of Corporation Revenues leased at auction for the year ending 31st March, 1853, and arrearages due on former years, £1084 7 6

No. 3—Is the Markets' Account for the year ending 31st Dec., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Paid rent to William Scovill, for repairs to the Markets, salaries to Deputy Clerks, Gas, Insurance, &c.; Paid for Market, Guy's Ward; Paid for do., Brook's Ward; And Credits—Amounts received for Rents and Revenues.

No. 4—Is a Statement of Payments made for sundry Services for the year ending 31st December, 1852, pursuant to the orders of the Common Council and the Trustees, amounting to £2084 7 1

No. 5—Is his General Account Current, as Receiver for the Trustees, to 31st December, 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Charges—To amount deposited at the Bank of British North America; To payments made for sundry services, per Act E. No. 4, 20th 10 11; One year's Interest on Mortgage to Marine Assurance Company, to 1st December, 1852; One year's Interest on Mortgage to Commercial Bank, to 25th August last; Chamberlain's Salary, one year, to date; Land Agent's do.; Books, Stationery, &c., for the Chamberlain's Office; Balance transferred to new Account.

No. 6—Is the Account Current of the Estate of the Mayor, Alderman, and Commonalty of the City of Saint John with the Trustees of City Corporation Properties.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Charges—To amount deposited at the Bank of British North America; To payments made for sundry services, per Act E. No. 4, 20th 10 11; One year's Interest on Mortgage to Marine Assurance Company, to 1st December, 1852; One year's Interest on Mortgage to Commercial Bank, to 25th August last; Chamberlain's Salary, one year, to date; Land Agent's do.; Books, Stationery, &c., for the Chamberlain's Office; Balance transferred to new Account.

No. 7—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Gross amount of Fees for the quarter; Salary for the quarter; Cash paid the Chamberlain.

No. 8—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Gross amount of Fees for the quarter; Salary for the quarter; Cash paid the Chamberlain.

No. 9—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Gross amount of Fees for the quarter; Salary for the quarter; Cash paid the Chamberlain.

No. 10—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Gross amount of Fees for the quarter; Salary for the quarter; Cash paid the Chamberlain.

No. 11—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Gross amount of Fees for the quarter; Salary for the quarter; Cash paid the Chamberlain.

No. 12—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Gross amount of Fees for the quarter; Salary for the quarter; Cash paid the Chamberlain.

No. 13—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Gross amount of Fees for the quarter; Salary for the quarter; Cash paid the Chamberlain.

No. 14—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Gross amount of Fees for the quarter; Salary for the quarter; Cash paid the Chamberlain.

No. 15—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Balance brought down, £164 4 11

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

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Charges—To Cash paid the Chamberlain during the year; Blanks; Defaulters, per list; Firemen, exempt; Commission on £239 5s.; Do. on £1067 5s.; Balance.

No. 3—By balance of Account rendered, £62 1 8

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Amt. collected from defaulters of 1851; Assessment for 1852; By balance brought down.

This balance has also been paid to the Chamberlain.

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

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Charges—Cash paid the Chamberlain; Defaulters, per list; Firemen, exempt; Commission on £32 10s. 2d.; Do. on £1067 18s. 9d.; Balance.

1851. And Credits—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Dec. 31—By balance of Account rendered; Amount collected from defaulters of 1851; Assessment for 1852; By balance brought down.

This balance has also been paid to the Chamberlain.

No. 4—Is his Account for Water Loan Assessment.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Charges—To Cash paid the Chamberlain; Defaulters, per list; Commission on £213 12s.; Do. on £248 13s. 2d.; Balance.

1851. And Credits—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Dec. 31—By balance of Account rendered; Amount collected from defaulters of 1851; Assessment for 1852; By balance brought down.

The Accounts of Mr. Gerow are made up in a satisfactory manner, and the amounts charged by him have been paid over to the Chamberlain, and duly credited. Your Committee recommend that 3s. due Mr. Gerow on the Mill-Street assessment be paid him, and the balance remaining in the Chamberlain's hand (1s. 2d.) be transferred to the Statute Labour Fund, in order to close up the Mill-Street Assessment Account.

G. No. 1—Is the Account of THOMAS REED, Harbour Master, from 15th July to 30th Sept., 1851.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Gross amount of Fees; Amount collected on account of do.; And Debits—Amount uncollected.

No. 2—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1851.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Salary, 24 months; Amount paid the Chamberlain; Amount not collected.

No. 3—Is his Account ending 31st Dec., 1851.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—Fees for the quarter; Do. on September account.

No. 4—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Amount unpaid; Salary for the quarter; Amount paid the Chamberlain.

No. 5—Is his Account ending 31st Dec., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—Fees for the quarter; Amounts collected for sums due 31st Dec.

No. 6—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—Fees for the quarter; Amounts collected for sums due 31st Dec.

No. 7—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—Fees for the quarter; Amounts collected for sums due 31st Dec.

No. 8—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—Fees for the quarter; Amounts collected for sums due 31st Dec.

No. 9—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—Fees for the quarter; Amounts collected for sums due 31st Dec.

No. 10—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—Fees for the quarter; Amounts collected for sums due 31st Dec.

No. 11—Is his Account ending 30th Sept., 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—Fees for the quarter; Amounts collected for sums due 31st Dec.

He Credits—Fines and Costs collected under Police Act, 10 2 0

No. 9—Is his Account for fourteen days in March, 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—Fines and Costs collected under Police Act; He Credits—Fines and Costs col., ditto; He Credits—Fines and Costs col., ditto; He Credits—Fines under City Ordinances.

No. 10—Is his Account for April, 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—Fines and Costs col., ditto; He Credits—Fines under City Ordinances.

No. 11—Is his Account ending May 12, 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—Fines and Costs col., ditto; He Credits—Fines under City Ordinances.

No. 12—Is his Account for June, 1852.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—Fines and Costs col., ditto; He Credits—Fines under City Ordinances.

No. 13—Is B. L. PETERS' Account for Fines, Costs, &c., received at the Police Office during the months of February and March, 1852, amounting to, £32 2 1

No. 14—Are the Accounts of JOHN JOHNSTON, Police Magistrate, from the 30th May to 30th December, 1852, for Fines and Costs received by him under the Police Act.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—His Account ending May 31; He Credits—His Account ending 30th June; He Credits—Ditto 31st July, ditto; He Credits—Ditto 30th September, ditto; He Credits—Ditto 31st October, ditto; He Credits—Ditto 30th November, ditto; He Credits—Ditto 31st December, ditto.

No. 15 to 24—Are the Accounts of JOHN JOHNSTON, Police Magistrate, from the 30th May to 30th December, 1852, for Fines and Costs received by him under the Police Act.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes He Credits—His Account ending May 31; He Credits—His Account ending 30th June; He Credits—Ditto 31st July, ditto; He Credits—Ditto 30th September, ditto; He Credits—Ditto 31st October, ditto; He Credits—Ditto 30th November, ditto; He Credits—Ditto 31st December, ditto.

No. 25—Is a list of Fines collected by JOHN JOHNSTON, Police Magistrate, under Act of Assembly relating to the Navigation of the River and Harbour of Saint John, and amount paid over to Chamberlain, £123 15 0

The safety of the Harbour has been secured, and the above amount received through the active exertions of John Murray, the Harbour Inspector.

Your Committee, in closing their Report on the Corporation Accounts for the past year, are happy in being enabled to state that the several sources of Corporation Revenue have increased during the year.

The amount received from the Harbour Master will be more than sufficient to pay the salary of the Harbour Inspector, an officer appointed during the past year.

The Dividend of five per cent interest on the public debt has been promptly paid from the legitimate funds of the Corporation.

The amicable arrangement with Her Majesty's Government of the long disputed question of the Harbour Gate across Salsbury street, has resulted in the purchase of the Crown of Fort Neck lease; and your Committee are hopeful that so soon as the necessary legal formalities are completed, and that project is carried into effect, a very considerable revenue may be realized therefrom.

In May last became apparent that, from some unknown cause, there was a serious falling in the receipts of the Upper Courthouse Market, the falling from 31st December, 1851, to 15th May, 1852, (£27 10s.) largely amounting to the salary of the Deputy Clerk.

At that period the revenues were leased by tender for one year to Mr. John McEwan, for the sum of £484, in quarterly payments; and your Committee have pleasure in stating that the payments have been promptly met up to this period.

Although at the public sales in April last the revenues of the Steam Ferry boats brought an increase of £200 over the corresponding period of 1851, yet, being compelled to provide a new boiler for the Steamer Victoria, at a cost of £100, and to incur other expenditure in repairs to the Steamer, to the extent of £475, coupled with a recent purchase of coals to the amount of £400, that handsome surplus has been in some measure reduced.

The Accounts in detail are submitted herewith, and your Committee recommend that they be published in pamphlet form. Respectfully submitted,

JOHN M. WALKER, JOHN W. CLELLI, G. VANHORN, J. JOHNSTON, THOMAS McAVITY, GEORGE W. NOWLIN

St. John, 17th February, 1853.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER. Fredericton, Thursday, Feb. 24.

This being the day appointed by proclamation for the Meeting of the Legislature, at two o'clock His Excellency the Lieut. Governor came in the usual state to the Council Chamber, and being seated on the throne, commanded the attendance of the House of Assembly, who being come, His Excellency was pleased to open the Session with the following:

SPEECH. Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

I have much pleasure in informing you that the Railway Bills passed by you in the last Session, have received the sanction of the Queen. No thing has occurred to change my opinion as to the policy which you have pursued, or to shake my faith in the advantage to be derived from great public works of this character.

In the despatches which will be laid before you, you will find certain remarks on the 24th ultimates, to which I solicit your attention. It is possible, too, that some measures may be taken by you for the purpose of encouraging and regulating immigration, in connection with these enterprises.

You may deem it expedient to your present Session to consider the general management of the Roads throughout the Province. Looking to the large outlay of public money which you take place in this department, I see great reason to doubt whether the present mode of administering it is the best which can be adopted.

Your wisdom may possibly devise some amendment in the present Law for regulating the election of Members of the Assembly, and for trying the validity of the Returns made by the Sheriff: at any rate it is my duty to bring the subject under your notice.

The Law Commission appointed in pursuance of the Act of last year have laboured with diligence and perseverance. I trust you may find even in the present Session an opportunity for legislating on the first Report which they will make. There is no subject which to be dealt with more vigorously or more cautiously than that of Law Reform.

A Bill will be laid before you for securing a Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages. Great complaints have been made to me of the want of some such provision, and I shall be happy to see the defect remedied.

I have pleased Providence again to bless us with abundant crops, and the Commercial situation of the Province is upon the whole satisfactory.

I believe that the Exhibition which took place this last Autumn at Fredericton was calculated to inspire confidence in our resources, and stimulate the industry of our people.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly. I congratulate you on the prosperous state of our Provincial Revenue. There has been an improvement in almost every branch of Receipts, and the whole aspect of our Finances promises well for the credit and future progress of New Brunswick.

At the same time the liabilities which we are about to incur in promoting the execution of Great Public Works will suggest caution and economy in dealing with our ordinary expenditure.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

You are well aware of the measures taken by Her Majesty's Government in the last session for the protection of our Fisheries. You have heard also that Her Majesty's Ministers are anxious to effect such arrangements with the Government of the United States as may conduce to greater freedom in commercial intercourse with our neighbours.

The Provincial Government have not been unmindful of the importance of these questions, or the interests of our people. The pending state, however, of any negotiations, would render it impossible to afford detailed information, or to legislate with advantage, at the present time, upon this subject.

My apprehensions have been expressed lest the interests of New Brunswick should be overlooked in carrying out any such arrangements. I am happy in being able to inform you on the best authority, that the propriety of the North American Provinces is one of the main objects which Her Majesty the Queen has in view, and that in any adjustment of the Fishery Question, the interests of New Brunswick will be carefully considered.

The Address in answer to the Speech was moved by Dr. Thomson, and its consideration fixed for Saturday.

Mr. Smith moved for a Committee on the publication of the Debates. This led to a long discussion, in which several Gentlemen took part. Mr. Smith moved for a Committee on School Petitions.

The Attorney General moved the standing order, viz. to accept no School Petitions for service, rendered since the passing of the law, unless recommended by the Superintendent. There was much discussion, and both motions were rejected or withdrawn.

Eight hundred copies of the Journals were ordered to be printed.

February 25th. This morning the Attorney General brought in a bill to incorporate the Diocesan Church Society, and a bill to establish a Registry of Births, &c., which were read a first time.

Mr. Botsford brought in a bill to authorise an assessment for a Levee House in Salsbury, and a bill to alter the time of holding the Sessions in Westmorland.

On motion of Mr. Smith, a committee was appointed to ascertain the cost of procuring 2000 copies of Reports and Debates.

On motion of Mr. Gray, a committee was appointed to consider the propriety of having all bills printed, and of doing away the practice of engrossing bills on parchment.

Mr. Cutler moved an amendment to the fourth clause, expanding the words "determining controverted Elections," and substituting "conducting Elections"—this raised a discussion.

The Government declared their intention to introduce a Bill to amend the Election Law, but would not say it would embrace Ballot, Registration, Extension of Suffrage.

Several members spoke in favor of these principles. Mr. Cutler said if the Government Measure did not embrace these, he had a measure prepared—finally the amendment was withdrawn.

Mr. Kerr moved an amendment to the tenth Section, omitting a portion, and substituting "we cannot too strongly express our opinion that the Fisheries are the inalienable right of the people of British North America, and should not be opened to any Foreign Nation by the Imperial Government, without the consent of this Province."

A long discussion ensued—strong sentiments were freely expressed.

In May last became apparent that, from some unknown cause, there was a serious falling in the receipts of the Upper Courthouse Market, the falling from 31st December, 1851, to 15th May, 1852, (£27 10s.) largely amounting to the salary of the Deputy Clerk.

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