

Mr. Wilmot, from the Committee appointed yesterday to take under consideration the subject of the Contingencies of the House, submitted a Report, embracing some of the matters referred to them, and he having read the same, handed it in at the Clerk's Table, where it was again read, and is as follows:—

"The Committee to whom were referred the subject of the Contingencies, have attended to that duty, and beg leave to Report:

"That their attention has been directed to the several ordinary items of "Postage," "Sleigh hire," and "Stationery."

"The gross amount of Postage Account against both Branches of the Legislature for 1841 was £449 6 8, of which the proportion of the Assembly was £326 16 8.

"The Account for 1842 against both Branches was £497 9s.; the proportion against the Assembly was £355 19 6.

"The Committee, after full consideration of this subject, beg leave to recommend that the following sums be allowed in lieu of Letter Postages for each County:—

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|----|---------------------------|----|
| Restigouche, | £8 | Gloucester, | £6 |
| Northumberland, | 6 | Kent, | 6 |
| Westmorland, | 12 | King's, | 6 |
| County of Saint John, | 10 | City of Saint John, | 4 |
| Charlotte, | 12 | Queen's, | 5 |
| Sunbury, | 4 | Carleton, | 6 |
| York, | 4 | | |

"These sums will effect a saving on the last year of about £75 per cent. currency.

"Another important point now arises, for the first time, as to the Postages of the Journals.

"The Committee have had laid before them a letter from the Postmaster to the Clerk, telling him, for the information of the House, that in consequence of instructions received by him from the General Post Office in Halifax, the Journals of the Legislature will in future be charged with a postage of one penny per sheet.

"At this rate, allowing six sheets a day for each Member, the probable amount of Postage for Journals for the Assembly will exceed £70; and the Committee submit for the consideration of the House, whether this branch of Postage should be paid out of the Treasury, in addition to the allowance above mentioned. The Committee cannot refrain from expressing their dissatisfaction with the rates of Postage as now established, and with the irresponsible and independent character of the Post Office establishment, so far as regards any control of the Provincial Government.

"It is the opinion of a majority of the Committee, that one of the Sleighs should be dispensed with.

"The Committee are informed, that in consequence of instructions from some Members of the late House, Mr. Turner, one of the drivers, has recently procured a new Sleigh at a large expense; they therefore recommend that he should be continued at the rate of 20s. per diem, and that his public labours shall be exclusively confined to attendance on the House during the hours of business.

"The attention of the Committee has been called to the fact of a reduction of £15 having been made on Turner's allowance at the last Session, and they recommend that this sum be now given in consideration of the expense incurred by him in procuring a new Sleigh.

"With respect to the second Sleigh, the Committee are of opinion, that as the owner has been at considerable expense in providing for attendance on the House, a small allowance should be made, and they recommend the sum of £17 10s. for this purpose.

"As the Committee are of opinion that several items have hitherto been inserted in the Contingent Account which should be disposed of in Committee of Supply, they recommend that in future no sum be allowed for Contingencies until the account thereof be first laid before the House, and considered and approved of by a Committee of the whole, and that the account thereof, as allowed, should be printed in the Journals.

"The Committee will submit their observations on the subject of Stationery in a further Report.

"Respectfully submitted.

"L. A. WILMOT,
R. L. HAZEN,
A. BARBERIE,
JAMES BOYD,
D. HANINGTON.

Ordered,