

That the Portland general revenues are sufficient to meet the interest on the City debt and a portion of the salaries of its officers.

That the Sewerage and Water Commissioners for Saint John (East) and Portland annually collect from the ratepayers of both Cities, a sum, sufficient to sustain the water supply and pay the interest on the Debentures.

That a portion of the cost of water supply in Saint John (West) is paid out of the revenues from the Western Common Lands and Fisheries, the balance being assessed upon the water consumers and the ratepayers.

That the cost of all other public services in both cities, including schools and sewerage, are provided for in the annual assessments.

That the rate of assessment in Portland is greater than in Saint John (East), and the rate in Saint John (East) exceeds that of Saint John (West). The rate in Saint John (West) is favorably affected by the right of the inhabitants to use a portion of the revenues from the Western Common Lands for departmental purposes.

That a rate of assessment only one cent on \$100 in excess of the assessment rate charged against the ratepayers of Saint John (East), if charged against the combined properties and income of the two cities, would secure a sum equal to the combined taxes of both cities in 1888. Such an assessment, would be a reduction of eleven cents on \$100 in Portland and an increase of twenty-seven cents on \$100 in Saint John (West).

That the increased rate of assessment on Saint John (West) which would result from merging all city properties and incomes, entitles the West side to special consideration, which your Commissioners suggest should take the form of large public improvements at the expense of the whole City.

CONSIDERATION OF THE BASIS OF UNION.

Your Commissioners invite your attention to some of the provisions which they have decided to include in the basis of union:

WARD DIVISIONS.

The City of Saint John (East) had a population in 1881 of 21,563, and is divided into six wards with an average population of 3,594.