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THE CASE  
OF  
DOCTOR WILLIAM REES,

LATE PHYSICIAN TO THE PROVINCIAL LUNATIC ASYLUM, TORONTO, C. W.

MEMORIAL TO  
HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL,  
IN COUNCIL,

Claiming Compensation for serious personal permanent injuries sustained  
while in the discharge of his professional public duties ;

TOGETHER WITH

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS AND REPORTS

OF

Several Committees

OF

BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT,

IN SUPPORT OF HIS CLAIM.

WITH AN APPENDIX.



Quebec :

PRINTED BY HUNTER, ROSE & CO., 26, ST. URSULE STREET.  
1865.



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# PETITION.

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*To His Excellency the Right Honorable CHARLES STANLEY,  
Viscount MONCK, Governor General of British North  
America, etc., etc.*

THE MEMORIAL OF WILLIAM REES, OF THE CITY OF TORONTO, ESQUIRE, LATE  
PHYSICIAN TO THE PROVINCIAL LUNATIC ASYLUM, RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That your Memorialist, on the 14th of August, 1863, presented to your Excellency in Council a Memorial, praying that the justice to which repeated Committees of both Houses of Parliament had reported him entitled, might be granted. That said Memorial was accompanied by a document signed by fifty members of the present Parliament, representing that they respectfully, yet strongly recommend Dr. Rees' case to the notice of the Government, believing as they did, that it was one deserving of an earnest and favorable consideration. It was also accompanied by a note from the Honorable John A. Macdonald, stating that he had long thought your Memorialist should have got additional compensation for his services and sufferings in the public service (a sum equal to a half-year's salary having been provisionally granted till the permanency of the injury had been ascertained).

That the whole of said Committees of both Houses, referring to the length of time which had elapsed, and the hardship and embarrassment to which the delay of the Government had subjected your Memorialist, have reiterated in the strongest language their desire that the measure of relief provided by the resolution of the Committee specially appointed by Mr. Hincks, of which Dr. Nelson was chairman, "may be adopted and carried out;" but that, instead of granting this *permanent* provision and compensation as contemplated by said Resolution and said Committees, a mere pittance only, after a further detention at the seat of Government of nearly twelve months, was meted to your Memorialist, in amount scarcely equal to his expenses.

That whilst your Memorialist feels grateful for the unequivocal acknowledgment of his claims by the Government—claims so fully established by the evidence, both lay and medical, of the very highest standing from all parts of the Province, and so powerfully recommended by those who were competent to judge of its equity—he again appeals to their sense of justice to accord to him what has been pronounced his right by the tribunals above referred to—viz: *permanent* pecuniary provision, to take effect from the date of the occurrence of the injuries he sustained, and an office suitable to his circumstances for the future.

Your Memorialist represents that although he has so often suggested, at the request of members of the Government, various offices, he has had the mortification of finding such offices afterwards given to others, from political claims or interest.

Your Memorialist respectfully urges that it cannot be contended that the relief alluded to (amounting to little more than a half-year's salary) is an equiva-

lent even for the injuries he sustained, but that when they have compelled him to abandon his profession and wholly unfitted him for the performance of its active duties, your Memorialist believes that the only view to take of the matter is, first, what are the nature and extent of the injuries; and, secondly, what should the compensation be. And this test will prove his assertion, that the latter has not only been wholly disproportionate to the former, but that it does not even cover the expenses he has unavoidably incurred in prosecuting his claim.

Your Memorialist has spent many years of his life in the endeavour to obtain that justice which the merits of his claim deserve, and has also, during a period of nearly half a century, dedicated the whole of his spare time and energies to the exploration of the medical topography, natural resources, and commercial capabilities of the country. Which facts he feels impelled on this occasion however reluctantly to establish.\* He has also advocated with untiring perseverance, through the public press, for many years an union of the whole of the British North American Provinces; a more liberal and comprehensive system of settlement, and the opening up of our highways from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans, with a view to promoting the general interests, and, as it may be said of a new country, fostering by every means its development and its vitality. For these services and others, in which he conceives the adoption of his suggestions has been the means of saving vast sums to the Province, he has received due verbal and written acknowledgments from both public bodies and private individuals interested in the several localities and parts of the Province respectively, † and has experi-

\* *Vide* Report of Select Committee, Journals House of Assembly, 1832; Inaugural Lecture, Mechanics' Institute, and *Frazer's Magazine*, 1833, on materials for a work on the Climate and Topography of British America.

† See the accompanying documents, viz. :—

- 1.—Communications urging the necessity of a Marine and General Hospital and Lying-in Institution.—*Quebec Mercury and Quebec Star*, 1827.
- 2.—A Medical Dispensary and Vaccine Institution, 1833.
- 3.—Prospectus of a Toronto School of Medicine, afterwards carried out by Dr. Rolph, 1834. Also, Medico Chirurgical Society and Literary and Philosophical Society, 1833.
- 4.—Provincial Institute, Lyceum of Natural History and Zoological Gardens, associated with the late Dr. Dunlop and Chas. Fothergill, Esq. The latter institution suffered from loss by fire of its valuable museum, manuscripts, &c.
- 5.—Suggestions urging expediency of providing for City of Toronto Charities an Industrial Farm, and adopting present site of House of Industry for City Hospital, New Water Works, and Street Railway.—*Toronto Colonist and Leader*.
- 6.—See reply to application to the Lords' Committee of Privy Council for Trade and Marine, accompanied by Plans, By-laws, &c., of "Sailor's Homes" in England, with a view to the establishment of a Home at Quebec.
- 7.—A Humane Society for rewarding individuals who risk their lives in rescuing others from drowning or violent death; for the punishment of cruelty to animals, and enforcing the law.
- 8.—The erection, at his individual expense, of Public Baths, a Commercial Dock, and Pier, in the City of Toronto, 1837.
- 9.—Bays Verte and Fundy and Sault Ste. Marie Canals. Having personally explored the peculiar claims of these proposed works over those of Caughnawaga and those on the south side of the St. Mary River, Lake Superior, they were strongly urged upon the attention of the Hon. Mr. Hincks, and through the public press, but no investigation was made—1834, 1855.
- 10.—Communications shewing statistics of produce, &c., as claims for the construction of Grand Provincial and Northern lines of Railroad, also a Great Ottawa and Huron Railroad.—*Albion, U. C.*, 1836, also in *Canadian Freeman*.
- 11.—Intercolonial or Eastern Section of Pacific Railway.—*Toronto Leader*, 1851 and 1861.
- 12.—Reply from Sir J. Colburne, through the Provincial Secretary, to a communication from Dr. Rees, resulting in a survey and the construction of Locks, with view to improving the River Trent navigation, 1834.
- 13.—Hon. H. Pinhey,—Letter of thanks for urging a survey of an Ottawa and Huron Military and Ship Canal, 1837.
- 14.—County Council of York, vote of thanks for same, respecting Georgian Bay Canal, 1843.

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enced much gratification from the approval by Your Excellency, and others, of your Memorialist's suggestions recently submitted through Sir E. P. Taché, Minister of Militia, of a plan for the nucleus of a permanent Provincial military and marine frontier force, calculated alike to afford preferment to the more affluent, and employment to the indigent youth of the Province, but more especially to those attending our military academies.

That the facts of your Memorialist's services and sacrifices in the cause of the most distressed class of our fellow-subjects, the losses he has sustained, and the grave and permanent injuries he received in fulfilling those duties, have never been denied, and it is difficult to see how the measure of justice he has so long sought can longer be withheld.

Your Memorialist apologises for the length and digression of his present memorial, and respectfully solicits from Your Excellency an early adjustment of his claims.

And he, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

W. REES.

Quebec, Sept., 1864.

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15.—“Dr. Rees is entitled to the thanks of the whole North-West, and substantial acknowledgment from his Government, for calling public attention to and originating the survey of the Georgian Bay Canal.” *Chicago Tribune*, 1855.

One of the founders of the Literary and Historical Society, and of the Society for the encouragement of Arts and Sciences at Quebec; from the latter of which he received a Medal for an Essay on Pyroligneous Acid, 1827.

Suggestion to the Provincial Government, urging the necessity of a Provincial Board of Works and Juvenile Reformatory—*Toronto Patriot*, 1834; both of which were adopted.

Procuring the foundation of Provincial Lunatic Asylums, 1840.

An Orphans' Home and Female Aid Society, 1850, at Toronto.

A Provincial Board of Prison and Sanitary Inspectors, 1859.

Suggestion to the Government, for a Military and Marine Frontier Force, and as auxiliaries a Nautical School and Training Ship, as well to afford a nursery for seamen and public defence, as to afford a check to the demoralization of the indigent and unemployed youth of the Province, no less than from motives of public economy.

Suggestion for a Department, or Minister of Public Health.

16.—PUBLIC SERVICES.—Petitioner was, from 1819 to 1822, Assistant Health Officer at the Port of Quebec; in 1822, was commissioned to take medical charge of transport to England; in 1837, was appointed Surgeon to the guard-ship at Toronto, and Assistant Surgeon to the Regiment of Queen's Rangers during the rebellion; was eighteen years Surgeon to the 2nd Regiment, West York; was five years in charge of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum.



# REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE AND PROCEEDINGS

OF

SELECT COMMITTEES OF THE HONORABLE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
AND HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

ON

THE PETITION OF DR. REES,  
LATE PHYSICIAN TO THE PROVINCIAL LUNATIC ASYLUM, TORONTO, C.W.

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Petition from Dr. William Rees, of the City of Toronto; praying for the adoption of an Address to His Excellency the Governor General, requesting His Excellency to take action on the Reports of Committees of the Legislative Assembly, recommending that the Petitioner be indemnified for injuries sustained whilst in the public service.

Presented to the Legislative Council by the Honorable Mr. Campbell, on the 28th May, 1862.

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Friday, 30th May, 1862.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. Allan, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Hamilton (Kingston), it was

*Ordered*, That the Petition of Dr. Rees be referred to a Select Committee, composed of the Honorable Messrs. Cameron, Hamilton (Kingston), De La Terrière, Hermanus Smith, and the Mover.—Carried.

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THURSDAY, 5th June, 1862.

The Order of the Day being read for the consideration of the Report of the Select Committee on the Petition of Dr. Rees, Honorable Mr. Allan said the case of Dr. Rees had been the subject of investigation before several Committees of the Legislative Assembly, every one of whom had, in their Reports, recommended compensation. No results had followed from these recommendations, and Dr. Rees had now applied to this House, and a similar recommendation was made by this Committee.

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## R E P O R T .

Your Committee find that the case of Dr. Rees has already been the subject of three Reports of Committees of the Legislative Assembly, the last having been made in the Session of 1861, each corroborative of the fact that serious injuries were sustained by that gentleman while in the performance of his professional public duties,—additional evidence being adduced on each occasion of those Reports of Select Committees, extracts from which are herewith subjoined. Under

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all the circumstances of the case, as set forth in the above Reports, and especially in the certificates and evidence contained in the documents submitted, which fully sustain the allegations of the applicant, Your Committee are humbly of opinion that the case is in itself one of great hardship, whilst the length of time which has elapsed without any action being taken on these Reports has materially increased the evils under which he suffers.

They would therefore submit, that an humble Address be presented to His Excellency, praying that the previous Reports, above referred to, be taken into consideration, and that the recommendation contained in the Resolution subjoined be adopted and carried out.

(Signed) G. W. ALLAN, Chairman.

Committee Room, Legislative Council,  
Quebec, 4th June, 1864.

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#### R E S O L U T I O N .

*Resolved*, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, informing His Excellency that this House has agreed to a Report of a Select Committee in favor of William Rees, Esquire, late Medical Superintendent of the Toronto Lunatic Asylum, recommending such suitable allowance to be made for injuries received by him while in the discharge of his duties, from the period of their occurrence, as His Excellency may deem the case, under the circumstances, to warrant, and to request His Excellency's favorable consideration thereof, and that a copy of the Report be also transmitted to His Excellency.

(Signed) WOLF. NELSON,  
Chairman.

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#### *Extracts from Report of Committee of the Legislative Assembly, 1851.*

Select Committee in Session of 1851.—Dr. Wolfred Nelson, chairman; Sir Allan MacNab, Messrs. John Prince, J. Boutillier, Dunbar Ross.

(This Committee was named by the House, at the suggestion of the Honorable Mr. Hincks.)

Your Committee beg leave most respectfully to report, that they have given the most careful consideration to the matter referred to them. They find that the circumstances connected with the case are already before Your Honorable House, in connection with a previous application; and it is therefore unnecessary to do more than refer to them. It appears that on the establishment of a Provincial Lunatic Asylum at Toronto, in September, 1840, and opened January, 1841, Dr. Rees, who had been mainly instrumental in procuring its establishment, was appointed Medical Superintendent to the Institution, an office which he continued to hold until the month of October, 1845, and with a degree of success—as regards the treatment of the patients—contrasting favorably with some of the best conducted asylums in Europe. This is satisfactorily shown in the able report of Dr. Spear, Member of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, London, to the Commissioners of the Toronto Asylum, in 1843, which is appended hereto. (No. 1)—*See Journals.*

In the autumn of 1844, Dr. Rees was, on different occasions, attacked by two of the unfortunate beings under his charge, and received such severe injuries in the head and other parts of the body, as to compel a temporary retirement from the active duties of his situation. Various papers connected with this are appended

(No. 2). They (the Committee) have no hesitation in believing his case to be one of a very painful character ; and they most heartily recommend him to the Government for such provision as they may deem fit to award to him, under the peculiar circumstances of his case. [See the Resolution adopted by this Committee, Dr. Nelson, chairman, page 3.]

All which is respectfully submitted.

*Extracts from Minutes of the Commissioners of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum.*

Present : The Vice Chancellor, the Sheriff, Rev. H. J. Grasell, Dr. Gwynne, Dr. Beaumont, Messrs. Ewart, Eastwood, Cawthra and O'Beirne ;—the Vice-Chancellor in the chair. The following Resolution was adopted :—

*Resolved*, That after a full investigation of the facts alleged by Dr. Rees in support of his Memorial to His Excellency the Governor General, with a view to his obtaining some *permanent* relief, in consideration of impaired health from injuries received while in the discharge of his duties as Medical Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum, we are unanimously of opinion that the statement submitted to them in his intended Memorial is well founded, and most respectfully recommend the same to the generous consideration of His Excellency.

ROBERT S. JAMESON,  
Chairman.

EVIDENCE, MEDICAL CERTIFICATES, CORRESPONDENCE, &c., SUBMITTED BEFORE A SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

*Evidence of T. BLATHERWICK, M. D.*

QUEBEC, 29th April, 1861.

“Having, previously to appearing before your Committee, examined the state of Dr. Rees' health, and the Report of the Committee of the Commissioners of the Toronto Lunatic Asylum, together with the medical certificates from Drs. Badgley, Herrick, Bovill, Arnoldi, Beaumont, Hallowell and others, I am of opinion that Dr. Rees has suffered permanently from the injuries he received while in charge of the Toronto Lunatic Asylum, and that he is disqualified from the active pursuit of his profession.

THOMAS BLATHERWICK,  
Staff Surgeon.

*Extract from Medical Certificate of Dr. DELMAGE.*

“Were an officer of our army to have suffered injuries under similar circumstances, I feel quite confident a life-pension would be granted to him.

“Dr. Rees, from all I can discover, is a gentleman greatly neglected by those in power, yet one whose services deserve at their hands more compassionate and substantial treatment.”

C. C. J. DELMAGE,  
Staff Surgeon.

I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the zeal and attention with which Dr. Rees discharged his duties as Medical Superintendent of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum, at Toronto, during many years. His impaired state of health was proved by evidence taken before the Commissioners of the Lunatic Asylum, Toronto, to have been mainly caused by injuries received from lunatics whilst in

the performance of his duties. I was at that time one of the Commissioners of the Asylum, and took some pains in the investigation, a report of which was published in the Journals of the House of Assembly of 1851. I beg to say that if the Government should grant a pension to Dr. Rees, I believe it would be only an act of fairness.

W. R. BEAUMONT,  
F. R. C. S. Eng.

We, the undersigned, have been acquainted with Dr. Rees for a long series of years. We are personally cognizant of the fact that he sustained very serious injuries, principally of the head, but also in other parts of the body, while in the discharge of his professional duties at the Provincial Lunatic Asylum. That in consequence of these injuries, he was rendered unable, for a considerable time, to continue his duties at the Institution.

That at the period indicated, and subsequently, in 1851, at the instance of a Parliamentary Committee, he was examined by medical men, and, on each occasion, pronounced unfit to practise; nor has he practised since the receipt of the injuries, owing to his continued impaired health from the above causes. We therefore consider him fully entitled to the measure of permanent relief recommended in the Report of the Commissioners of the Asylum to the Government on the occasion, and of the Committee of Parliament, embodied in a Resolution prepared by its chairman, Dr. Nelson.

GEORGE HERRICK, M.D.  
JAMES BOVELL, M.D.

Toronto, 15th February, 1861.

DR. ARNOLDI, to the *Honourables* JOHN ROSE, *Commissioner of Public Works*.

SIR,—The attention of Government having been drawn, during the present Session of the Legislature, to the case of Dr. Rees, of Toronto, late Medical Superintendent of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum; and having, in common with his numerous medical friends, felt deep interest that he should be adequately requited for his past and valuable services, may I beg your serious and immediate attention to his prayer, now fully before the Government? Dr. Rees has devoted a very large portion of his professional life to the establishment of lunatic asylums in Canada. He visited the continent of Europe to obtain the most recent and approved modes of conducting such institutions, altogether at his own expense; and on his return, after many applications to the Legislature, succeeded in getting the present Toronto Lunatic Asylum founded, and was appointed the first Medical Superintendent, the duties of which he discharged from 1840 to 1845, with great success and universal satisfaction. The status which this Institution immediately acquired needs no eulogy from me.

Dr. Rees had many of the very worst cases to manage, and in the last year of his servitude he received a very severe blow on the head, inflicted by a powerful maniac, and was otherwise severely injured by blows and kicks about the person. After this mishap, Dr. Rees was rendered incapable of discharging his duties for a considerable length of time; the Board Trustees or Commissioners ordered a medical enquiry to be made on his state, in consequence of which a unanimous Resolution was passed and submitted to Government, recommending "permanent relief" to the Doctor. Dr. R.'s case, being injury received while in the discharge of his duty, is precisely the same as that of an officer in the army—a pension was undeni-

ably his right. May I therefore trust you will give Dr. Rees' case your serious consideration and favorable support?

I remain, Sir,  
Your most obedient, humble servant,  
FRS. ARNOLDI, M.D.

Toronto, May 8th, 1860.

49, QUEEN STREET EAST,  
Toronto, March 2, 1861.

I have been acquainted with Dr. Rees for the last *twenty-two years*; at the commencement of that period, he was in the active discharge of his duties as Medical Superintendent of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum. I was, on several occasions, conducted by him through the establishment, and had ample opportunity afforded me of witnessing his successful mode of treating the patients, and his enthusiastic exertions on behalf of the "*poor lunatic*."

Some years after the period referred to, and while still acting as medical officer to the Institution, Dr. Rees sustained very severe injuries from a maniac (one of the most violent description), in consequence of which Dr. Rees was obliged to relinquish his charge for a season,—his bodily organs generally having suffered so much functional derangement as to disqualify him from service.

Having carefully perused the various certificates furnished by Staff Surgeon Delmage, Drs. Herrick, Badgley, Bovell, and others personally known to me, and comparing the conclusions at which they have arrived with the opinion I have myself formed of Dr. Rees' bodily condition, during frequent intercourse with him for the last 13 or 14 years, I corroborate the statements of the above gentlemen in every particular.

WILLIAM HALLOWELL, M.D.

*Certificate of F. BADGLEY, M.D.*

TORONTO, 5th March, 1851.

SIR,—In accordance with your request that I would furnish you in writing with my opinion (for the information of the Executive Government) as to your "present state of health, and your fitness for resuming general medical practice," I beg to state that, after the minute examination to which I subjected you on a recent occasion, I consider your health to be such that no Life Insurance Company would undertake a risk upon your life in consequence of the injury sustained by you in the course of your duties at the Asylum, in 1845, by the hands of the man Dempsy.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
F. BADGLEY, M.D.

TORONTO, C. W.

Dr. Rees, late Superintendent of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum, having applied to me for a certificate as to the amount of pension he would be entitled to if he had been in the public service and invalided, after a period of five years as a surgeon, I beg leave to state that, after a careful perusal of his case, as embodied in the various Returns and correspondence of the Report of the Select Committee of the Legislative Council on his case, I have come to the conclusion that he might fairly expect to receive, for the remainder of his life, a pension of at least £200 sterling.

VERE WEBB,  
Staff Surgeon-Major.

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EVIDENCE BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1861.

Mr. Ex-Sheriff Jarvis (formerly one of the Commissioners of the Lunatic Asylum, Toronto) was in attendance, and testified as follows:—Has known Dr. Rees long and intimately; always considered him a public benefactor, and entitled to the consideration of the Government; remembers the time when alleged injuries were received, and thinks the Doctor's general health impaired ever since."

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*Extracts from Report of Committee of the Legislative Assembly, 1846.*

"Select Committee in Session of 1846.—W. B. Robinson, chairman; Messrs. George McDonell, William H. Boulton, Robert Christie, E. P. Taché.

"With regard to that portion of the Petition praying compensation for injuries received from the unfortunate and irresponsible class of our fellow-beings under his charge, while discharging his duties, this, Your Committee apprehend, can no more be denied to him (the Petitioner) than to a soldier wounded in the service of his country.

"In the case of the Petitioner, a most strict and careful examination was gone into by the Commissioners, and, as proved by the Minutes of their proceedings, they were satisfied (as Your Committee are by the medical certificates produced by the Petitioner), and unanimously concurred in the opinion that he was entitled to compensation at the hands of the Government, as certified by their Report, appended to this Petition; and this is fully borne out by the accompanying strong recommendation of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, the Mayor and Corporation of Toronto, and the heads of departments in the city. They cannot too strongly urge the requital of valuable services in meritorious public officers, and compensation to them for injuries which they may receive incidental to their employment."

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Mr. Robinson moved, that the Petition of William Rees, late Medical Superintendent of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum at Toronto, praying that the Resolution and Report prepared by a Committee of the Legislative Assembly in 1851, respecting his claims for compensation for injuries sustained while in discharge of his public professional duties, may be referred to a committee for investigation, be referred to a Select Committee, consisting of Messrs. Playfair, Cameron, Wilson, Bureau, and the Mover.

*Ycas—75; Nays—27.\**

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COMMITTEE ROOM, Tuesday, 30th April, 1861.

The Select Committee to which was referred the Petition of Dr. William Rees, late Medical Superintendent of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum at Toronto, beg leave to report:—

That they have given due consideration to the matters referred to them in said Petition.

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\* The vote would have been nearly unanimous, but for the objection explained, viz.: that as two Reports had already been made in favor of the Petitioner, the Government should have acted without further reference to Parliament.

That the facts stated in the said Petition are already before Your Honorable House, in connection with a previous application.

That Your Committee find that, many years ago, Dr. Rees, actuated by humane motives, brought to the attention of the Legislature and other authorities in Upper Canada, the position of those insane persons who, at that time, were unfortunately confined in the gaols of the country.

That it was owing in a great degree to the exertions and representations of Dr. Rees that the first lunatic asylum was established in Upper Canada.

That while in the performance of his duties as Medical Superintendent of such asylum in Toronto, he sustained severe injuries from the attacks of two lunatics, which (as was shown to Your Committee in the certificates of many medical practitioners of the highest respectability) have permanently injured his health, and rendered him unfit for the practise of his profession.

That in the years 1846 and 1851, the case of Dr. Rees was favorably reported on by Committees of the Legislature, which Reports, Your Committee regret, have resulted in no permanent advantage to Dr. Rees.

Your Committee are of opinion that Dr. Rees is not altogether incapacitated from active duty, and would therefore recommend him to the consideration of the Government, and that some provision or situation suited to the circumstances of his case may be given to him.

Your Committee would also recommend that the medical certificates signed by Doctors Herrick, Bovell, Hallowell, Beaumont and Blatherwick, be printed.

(Signed) JOHN BEVERLY ROBINSON,  
*Chairman.*

*Sir A. N. MACNAB to Honorable F. HINCKS.*

DUNDRUN, July 7, 1852.

MY DEAR SIR,—I enclose you a letter which I received some weeks since from Mr. Jameson; you must be familiar with the subject to which it refers. I do hope the Government have it in their power to do something for Dr. Rees. I have always considered him a very ill-used man, and I think that is the opinion of all persons who have taken the trouble to enquire into his case and claims. I would refer you to the Journals of two Parliaments, and particularly to the Reports of the Committee to whom this case was referred; Nelson, I think, was chairman of the last Committee.

Yours truly,

ALLAN N. MACNAB.

To the Honorable F. Hincks, &c., &c.

*Hon. P. B. DE BLAQUIÈRE to DR. REES.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER,

April 27, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have read with much attention, and I may add great interest, the documents you have been so good as to transmit for my perusal. They involve a case such as never before came under my observation, of the all but total neglect of most valuable services rendered to the public, attended with serious personal and permanent injuries to the individual who performed them.

Do me the favor to call here to-morrow, after three o'clock, if that hour will suit your convenience, in order that we may confer further on the subject.

Yours very truly,

P. B. DEBLAQUIÈRE.

Dr. Rees.

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From ISAAC BUCHANAN, *Esq.*, *M.P.P.*, to DR. REES.

HAMILTON, 3rd December, 1859.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have your note of yesterday, and I now return the letter of the Hon. Mr. Cameron to the Attorney-General. When at Quebec, I spoke to Messrs. Galt, Vankoughnet and Rose about your case, and I wrote to Mr. McDonald, as he was unwell. He has now written me on the subject. He says that he recommended you in Toronto to prepare a brief of your case, and place it in the hands of your warm friend, Mr. Cayley, who may thus be able to submit such a case for His Excellency's consideration as will deserve full enquiry. Whoever is to blame, you seem to be very cruelly treated, in not (at least) getting your case disposed of one way or other.\*

ISAAC BUCHANAN.

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*Hon.* MALCOLM CAMERON to MR. CAYLEY.

MY DEAR CAYLEY,—I regret to learn from Dr. Rees that nothing was done for him during the late Session. I think that the Reports of the Committees of the House are so strong and satisfactory, that something should be done for him by the Government, and I am aware that they would find little opposition from members of the other side of the House.

I am yours truly,

M. CAMERON.

Toronto, June 24th, 1860.

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PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT,  
Legislative Council, February, 1859.

“Hon. Mr. DeBlaquière moved, that the Petition presented to the House this Session, together with those presented on previous occasions, by Dr. Rees, be referred to a Select Committee.”

Hon. Mr. DeBlaquière vindicated the claims of Dr. Rees at considerable length. The claims of Dr. Rees on the public were of the first importance; it was he who first introduced lunatic asylums into Canada, but not until he had travelled over Europe (at his own expense) to investigate the various institutions of the kind, and after he had suffered and overcome much opposition. The asylum established by Dr. Rees was eminently successful, although he had met the greatest opposition in establishing it.

Hon. Col. Prince was glad of the notice, since it would keep Dr. Rees' claim, already admitted by former Committees to be a just one, before the House. There is no doubt it ought long since to have been settled, as recommended in their Resolution and Address to the Governor General, from the occurrence of the injuries—injuries, as amply shown by the evidence, which had nearly proved fatal, and which to the present moment seriously affect the health of the Doctor.

The Hon. Mr. Allan and other gentlemen pressed upon the attention of the Government the claims of Dr. Rees.

“Hon. P. Vankoughnet acknowledged that Dr. Rees had suffered while in connexion with the asylum; that he had been engaged in pursuits of public utility,

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\* Hon. Mr. Cayley did present such memorandum, but the Attorney-General advised its being put off until Parliament again assembled, when it was deferred to the following Session, with the assurance that it would then be carried through.

and said that the Government were well disposed to consider his claims, which were, undoubtedly, well worthy of every attention, and to do what would be proper in the case."

With this pledge to the House the matter dropped, but nothing whatever was done.

*The Hon. the Vice-Chancellor to Sir A. N. MACNAB.*

TORONTO, 12th May, 1862.

MY DEAR SIR ALLAN,—As I know you have already advocated the interests of Dr. Rees, and you are not exactly the sort of man to be wearied with well doing, you will excuse me for now calling your attention to his case. For some time I have been seriously alarmed at the manifest perilous state of his health, resulting, according to the best medical evidence, from organic injuries received when acting as Superintendent of the Asylum; and, knowing that some measure is pending before the Executive, in pursuance of a twice-repeated Legislative sanction in his behalf, I am only afraid that relief may come too late, and that, like the famous Butler, who died of starvation and heartbreak, and had immediately a marble monument erected to his memory by his grateful country, "He asked for bread and received a stone."

The Commissioners of the Lunatic Asylum, among whom, from its first establishment, I was a member, were so convinced that Rees came within the class for whom some provision is made in respect of injuries sustained in the public service, that, in fact, he stood in the light of an officer maimed in battle; and sooner far, I think, would either you or I risk our lives on the battle-field than among cunning lunatics.

The following entry I find among our proceedings when investigating his case:—The Committee appointed by a Resolution of the Commissioners of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum, at a meeting held the 24th January, 1846, to investigate the circumstances under which certain injuries sustained by Dr. Rees were inflicted, beg leave to report, that after a minute and careful examination of such of the officers and servants of the Institution as were likely to be cognizant of the circumstances under which certain injuries sustained by Dr. Rees, and described in the medical certificates of Professor Beaumont and Dr. Grasett, were inflicted, they are unanimously of opinion that those injuries were sustained by that gentleman when in the discharge of his official duties as Medical Superintendent of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum. At a subsequent meeting of the Commissioners, convened for the purpose of considering the Report, with a view to founding thereupon an application to the Government, it was resolved, after a full investigation of the facts alleged by Dr. Rees in support of his memorial to His Excellency the Governor General, that with a view of obtaining some *permanent relief* in consideration of impaired health from injuries received while in the discharge of his duties as Medical Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum, we are unanimously of opinion that the statement submitted to them in his intended Memorial is well founded, and most respectfully recommend the same to the generous consideration of His Excellency.

Can you, my dear Sir Allan, upon this sanction, and upon what you know better than I can, the proceedings of the House of Assembly, take any step which may tend to extricate a deserving public servant from a state of suspense and suffering?

Believe me, my dear Sir Allan MacNab, with the greatest respect,  
Your faithful servant,

ROBERT JAMESON.

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We, the undersigned, respectfully certify that we have long known Dr. Wm. Rees, and willingly bear testimony to the active zeal and humanity with which he has, for several years, devoted his able professional skill to the service of the Lunatic Asylum, and humbly recommend him to the favor of His Excellency the Governor General.

ALLAN N. MACNAB,  
JOHN TORONTO,

ROBERT S. JAMESON, V. Chr.,  
J. B. MACAULAY, Judge, Q. B.,

A. M'LEAN, Judge, Q. B.,

C. A. HAGERMAN, Q. B.,

W. B. JARVIS, Sheriff, H. D., and one of  
the Commissioners, Lunatic Asylum.

I have always heard Dr. Rees' services, in the care of lunatics confined in the Asylum, spoken of as being very zealous and successful.

JNO. B. ROBINSON, Chief Justice.

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We, the undersigned, members of the Corporation of the City of Toronto, having been acquainted with Dr. Rees as a professional man for many years, and having witnessed the talent and zeal which he has manifested in the conduct and management of the temporary Lunatic Asylum in this city, during the many years which he has been engaged in the medical superintendence of that institution, most respectfully recommend him to the favorable consideration of His Excellency the Governor General.

WM. H. BOULTON, Mayor,  
HENRY SHERWOOD, Alderman,  
GEO. GURNETT, Alderman,  
WM. WAKEFIELD, Alderman,  
JAMES BEATY, Alderman,  
ANGUS BETHUNE, Alderman,  
J. HILLYARD CAMERON, Alderman,  
ROBERT BEARD, Alderman,  
— DENISON, Jr., Alderman,

JOHN CRAIG, C.C.,  
JAMES TROTTER, C.C.,  
GEO. PLATT, C.C.,  
J. G. BEARD, C.C.,  
SAML. PLATT, C.C.,  
JOHN RITCHIE, C.C.,  
THOMAS J. PRESTON, C.C.,  
JONATHAN DUNN, C.C.,  
SAMUEL MITCHELL, C.C.

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*Telegram to the Hon. P. M. VANKOUGHNET, Commissioner of Crown Lands.*

Don't forget our old friend Dr. Rees and his services.

ISAAC BUCHANAN.

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*Telegram to the Hon. GEORGE SHERWOOD, Receiver General.*

HAMILTON, August 17th, 1859.

Don't forget our old friend Dr. Rees and his services, which would, had your brother lived, have been long ago settled.

ISAAC BUCHANAN.

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*Telegram to the Hon. SIDNEY SMITH, Postmaster General.*

You will place me under great obligation by assisting in getting justice done to Dr. Rees, before the removal of the Government.

ISAAC BUCHANAN.

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In furtherance of the suggestion from some members of the Government, that an office, with a respectable salary, and suited to the circumstances of the Petitioner, should be conferred upon him, instead of a provision or pension, the following appointments were respectively proposed in the subjoined letters; but although the proposal for the creation of such offices was in each case carried out, the incumbency, unfortunately, did not fall to the lot of him for whom its creation was designed.

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*Hon. H. SHERWOOD to DR. REES.*

QUEBEC, 6th October, 1852.

MY DEAR SIR.—I have had an interview with Mr. Hincks on the subject of your claim, and upon the whole it was satisfactory. He seems quite disposed to recognize your claim, and requests me—as I shall do—to place it before the Government in the shape of a Memorial. He says that the Government intend to come down to the Legislature with a Bill for the establishment of Institutions for the imprisonment and correction of juvenile offenders, one of which is to be erected in Toronto; and if the proposition meets the approbation of Parliament and becomes a law, that he will give you the management of it, at a respectable salary. If this arrangement, however, should fail, I feel justly confident that I can get your just claim answered in some other way.

Yours truly,

HENRY SHERWOOD.

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*Copy of Letter, DR. REES to the Honorable A. N. MORIN, Provincial Secretary, suggesting the establishment of a Board of Prison and Sanatory Inspectors, with views to the more effectual supervision and improvement of our Provincial institutions.*

QUEBEC, 4th December, 1854.

SIR,—The universal complaint of the want of order and discipline which has existed for so many years, and which has been more particularly evinced through the public press, prompts me to submit for your consideration a permanent Board or Commission, by which a more thorough investigation into the Quarantine and Emigrant Departments, the Marine and other Hospitals, the Lunatic Asylums, Penitentiary and Prisons may be more effectually made, with views to their improvement; the above proposed plan being that which obtains in most of the States of Europe.

I shall be happy to enter more fully into details, should this suggestion meet the approbation of the Government.

I avail myself of this opportunity of enclosing a letter from Dr. Nelson, to whom the above proposition has been submitted by me, and in which he fully concurs.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your very obedient servant,

WILLIAM REES.

To the Honorable A. N. Morin,  
Provincial Secretary,  
Quebec.

MONTREAL, 23rd November, 1854.

MY DEAR MORIN,—The bearer, Dr. Rees, an old and much esteemed friend, will have the honor to hand this to you. I can most safely recommend the Doctor to your kind consideration.

He is quite conversant with hospitals, asylums, and every other department embraced by his profession. Should the present Government be disposed to take some steps to place our public sanatory institutions on a better foundation (and God knows they require much), I know of few men better qualified to make valuable suggestions for the administration of such matters, for the Doctor is eminently practical and much given to study, and has had great experience.

A Sanatory Board is very much required, equally for the benefit of the sick, the stranger, the alienated and the infirm. An establishment of this nature would be an honor to the country, would save it many thousands of pounds annually, and relieve the Administration of a vast amount of trouble and vexation.

I am sure you will pardon the freedom of my remarks, knowing as I do how devoted you are to the best interests of our common country.†

Yours very faithfully,  
WOLFRED NELSON.

DR. HERRICK to *Honorable F. HINCKS.*

TORONTO, August 17, 1852.

MY DEAR HINCKS,—You might have recently observed that the condition and management of the Gaols, as regards the health of their inmates, has been the subject of severe animadversion in the public prints, no less than the complaints against the Provincial Lunatic Asylum.

Now it has occurred to me, that if an Inspector of Gaols and Lunatic Asylums was appointed for the Western, similar to that of the Eastern section of the Province, lately given to Dr. Nelson, no measure would afford greater public satisfaction. I have been led to make these observations, because I have made arrangements to proceed to Parliament for the purpose of obtaining justice for that much injured and long neglected, yet meritorious public servant, Dr. Rees,—a man more eminently qualified from his experience and aptitude for such an office as the above cannot be found, nor would any appointment give greater satisfaction.

The Legislature having two or three times recommended provision for him as compensation, and as no man has done more to aid the public,\* I do hope that you will at once carry out this suggestion, together with the recommendation of the Committee in their Resolution of last Session, so that he may extricate himself from the embarrassment under which he has so long suffered.

I may venture to add that I feel sure Dr. Rolph will fully agree in all I have here advanced.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

GEORGE HERRICK, M.D.

To the Honorable F. Hincks, &c., &c.

*From the Toronto Patriot, May 17th, 1839.*

\* “We this day lay before the public a correct list of the Bills passed during the late Session of the Legislature, among which is one for the establishment of a Lunatic Asylum. The public is mainly indebted to the indefatigable perseverance of Dr. Rees, who, we sincerely hope, will be rewarded for his useful and praiseworthy zeal by a post of honor and emolument in the establishment, and not, like Bentivoglio, be denied admittance into the hospital which he himself had erected.”

By Dr. Rees also was suggested the existing Provincial Board of Works, a means of saving vast sums to the public, adding greatly to the efficiency, and preventing the abuses at that time so much complained of in that important branch of the public service.

The Orphans' Home and Female Aid Society (the model charity of the Province, it may be said), and other important Institutions, owe their origin to Dr. Rees.

† “The first important step taken in Canada towards reforming our prison system, was by the establishment, in 1859, of a Board of Inspectors of Asylums and Prisons.”—*Glance at the Present State of the Common Gaols of Canada, &c.*, by E. A. Meredith, LL. D.

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*Hon. Mr. CAYLEY to Hon. F. HINCKS.*

MY DEAR SIR,—Will you allow me to introduce to your notice (though holiday time) a subject in which you must take a lively interest—the unhappy aborigines of this country. You are well aware of the satisfaction generally felt at the appointment of the Hon. W. B. Robinson to the very important and interesting service of settling the wild tribes of the West : that being accomplished, a permanent arrangement should be made to protect their interests.

On the eve of the removal of the Government from Toronto to Quebec, I feel assured that the poor Indians will not be overlooked, and that precautions will be taken to promote their spiritual as well as temporal welfare, by the selection of some competent party to devote his whole time and attention to their general wants. I have but to mention the name of Dr. Rees to enlist your sympathies and interest—a man of high professional attainments, great experience and trustworthy habits, with that peculiar idiosyncrasy which render him eminently qualified for this all-important charge. A word from you to the authorities will more than suffice the wishes of our friend ; and by effecting his election, you will equally secure the interests of that interesting race who are more especially the object of this application, and render great personal satisfaction to

Your most obedient, humble servant,

W. CAYLEY.

To the Honorable F. Hincks.

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*Extract from Report of DR. SPEAR, specially appointed by the Commissioners to report to the Government.*

“ Dr. Rees has, by his exertions and his medical and moral treatment, raised the Toronto Lunatic Asylum, with all its disadvantages, to nearly a level with the most favored of similar institutions in Europe.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect, Sir,  
Your very obedient servant,

ROBERT SPEAR, B.M., L.M. Cantab.,  
Member of the Royal College of Physicians, London.

To the Hon. Vice-Chancellor,  
Chief Commissioner of Toronto Lunatic Asylum.”

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*DR. DUNLOP'S Report.*

TORONTO, 8th January, 1844.

SIR,—Three years ago, at the request of several of the trustees of the Lunatic Asylum at Toronto, I examined that Hospital and reported upon its state and the medical treatment of the patients. I have frequently visited it since, and lastly most minutely this day, and saw and personally examined every patient in it.

I have no hesitation in saying that it is in a high state of efficiency. The medical treatment, so far as I am able to judge, is as good as can be. No coercion or harshness is allowed, and all the patients seem as happy as their unfortunate circumstances will admit of.

For thirty-five years I have studied the subject of mental aberration, and I have no doubt that the mode of treatment adopted in the Toronto Asylum is the most judicious that could be employed in such cases. Did any doubt exist, the results would show that it was what it ought to have been.

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I have nothing to add to my former remarks, except that experience has confirmed all that I had anticipated in reference to the executive influence with which the medical superintendent should be invested in such an establishment. If that officer is not to have the entire management of his patients, of their diet and discipline, as well as the entire control of the establishment, he cannot reasonably be held responsible for their well-being.

The evils arising from this defect have necessarily produced the greatest embarrassment, and the subject is one of such serious importance that it cannot but be regarded as possessing the strongest claim for the earliest attention of the Government.

Visitors in all asylums for the insane are absolutely necessary, and the magistrates of the city or county, in Quarter Sessions assembled, wherever it might be situated, are the best qualified to fulfil the duty, as it only requires to see that the unfortunate inmates are treated with kindness and humanity, and that the funds are administered with economy. All other interference with medical treatment can only result in injury to the character of the Institution, and to the detriment of its unfortunate inmates.

I have the honor to remain, &c.,

W. DUNLOP.

The Honorable the Vice-Chancellor, Chairman of the  
Board of Commissioners for the management of the Toronto Lunatic Asylum.

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*Extract from the British American Journal of Medical and Physical Science.*

“REPORT OF THE TORONTO LUNATIC ASYLUM.—We acknowledge the reception from Dr. Rees, the late Physician of the Toronto Lunatic Asylum for the Insane, of the Report of that Institution for the last year, with a Summary for the last five years. At the late hour at which they were received, we find it impracticable to pay that attention to them which their importance demands. The crowded state of our columns, from matters which are of extreme importance to the profession at large, entirely precludes this. We have, however, examined the documents, and find in them abundant demonstration of Dr. Rees’ perfect fitness for the full discharge of the important duties with which he had been invested, and which, we are sorry to understand, have been rather abruptly terminated. Dr. Rees’ health has been much impaired from, we understand, some injuries received from a lunatic, and he is now preferring just claims, in which we hope he will be successful. We have never heard but one sentiment in his favor, viz.: one of praise; and it is to his exertions that the Toronto Asylum chiefly owes its existence.”

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*From the Montreal Medical Gazette, April 1, 1845.*

“We call the attention of our readers to the valuable Report of Dr. W. Rees, addressed to the Board of Commissioners, on the condition of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum of Toronto, under his professional charge; and we regret that want of space has prevented us from publishing in our present number the statistical tables which accompanied his Report. They are drawn up in a most clear and satisfactory manner. By Dr. Rees’ Report, the average amount of cures since the opening of the Asylum has been 60 per cent., which we conceive redounds most highly to his credit; and considering the limited accommodation in the building, the many perplexing and mortifying difficulties which he had to encounter in the exe-

cution of his onerous duties, it speaks volumes in favor of his thorough acquaintance with the malady to the treatment of which he has for some years given his whole attention and energies.

In a very able Report drawn up by Dr. Spears, in March, '43, we find, as confirmatory of this opinion of ours, a statement of the average number of cures effected in different countries, by which we learn that our friend Dr. Rees stands second only on the list. The average number of cures effected at Bethlehem on all cases is there stated to be 63 per cent. ; in the Connecticut Asylum, 57—40 per cent. ; in France, 42—42 per cent. ; in England, generally 32 per cent. How stand the mortalities ? In Connecticut there are 4—4 per cent. ; in Paris, 7—7 per cent. ; and at Toronto, 7—5 per cent. The Report above alluded to of Dr. Spears, with others of Drs. Dunlop and Rees, we hope to be permitted to publish in future numbers, for they contain a mass of information, rendered doubly valuable at this moment, from the fact of all the Institutions at present existing in this Province being merely of a temporary description."

*Extract from the First Report of the Asylum, by the Hon. R. S. JAMESON, V. C., and Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, 1841.\**

"When assuming the responsibility and the organization of the new Asylum, I well knew the benevolent ardour with which Dr. Rees had long devoted himself to the subject of the treatment of insane persons, and that it was, in fact, owing mainly to his perseverance that the existing Legislative provision was made. The patients were taken from the cells in which they were closely confined, and placed

\* *Extract from the very able speech of the Hon. Chief Justice Robinson, on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of the New Asylum, Toronto, August 26th, 1846.*

"The erection of a new gaol in this city left the old gaol at the disposal of the proper authorities, and it was applied exclusively to the purpose of accommodating the insane, who being collected there, were placed under the care of a medical gentleman, Dr. Rees, who had made insanity his study, and who discharged the duty he had undertaken with ability and zeal.

I shall not be so unreasonable as to attempt to detain you here by giving any account of the statistics of insanity in this or other countries. Those who have read some of the reports on the management of Lunatic Asylums, published in Europe and in the United States of America, will not readily forget the affecting descriptions of the almost magical improvement produced in the patients by the adoption of the kind treatment which has, in modern times, been substituted for the harsh system of constraint and intimidation formerly in use. Some of these [I speak more particularly of reports which have been presented to the Legislature of the State of New York] are among the most deeply interesting documents which I have ever read. One fact I recollect to have seen stated in them, which is indeed encouraging. It is, that in one of the institutions of that State, as well as in the well-known private establishment in England, conducted by Dr. Burrows, the average number of patients restored to the use of their reason is about ninety-two in a hundred. But then this calculation is confined to cases where there has been no delay in applying the proper treatment. When three months have been suffered to elapse, the result is more doubtful ; if a much longer time is lost, the case seems to be in general almost hopeless. It appears as if the continued derangement of the mental powers occasions some corresponding disorder in the functions or structure of the material frame, which prevents the current of thought from returning to its accustomed channels.

"We see then, in a vast proportion of the cases, it must depend upon the patient receiving the proper treatment without delay, whether he is to continue through the rest of his life a bewildered maniac, or be speedily restored to himself and his family, a useful and rational, and perhaps a happy being. And this being so, what a satisfaction is it to reflect that from the day this Asylum shall be opened, there will be a retreat where all those who may be thus afflicted can have instantly the advantage of all those means which science and humanity have provided in this enlightened age for effecting their restoration, if, by the blessing of God, it be possible. If they or their friends shall be in circumstances to support the charge of their maintenance, they will be received on those terms ; if they shall be too indigent to have that in their power, then they will be supported at the public charge ; and whether the afflicted person shall be rich or poor, there will be no essential comfort, no useful luxury, no aid which science and skill can furnish—no necessary recreation for the mind or healthful employment for the body, with which wealth could, under such circumstances, furnish its possessor, that

in purified, airy rooms, and their food critically adapted to their physical state; in fact, everything was done which the constant attention of a person devoted to his purpose could effect. The effect of this new course of life on the patients was soon apparent. Many who had long been confined as confirmed lunatics were found to be laboring under derangement arising from physical causes, and yielding to physical remedies; several have completely recovered who, but for this treatment, would probably never have exhibited another gleam of reason. So much good, I conceive, could never have been effected by the mere occasional visits of a physician, however skilful. The state of the Asylum, and the success with which it has been conducted, are shown forth in the approbation of the Grand Jury, who visited the Asylum 10th June, and whose presentment is herewith appended."

will not in their case be equally brought within the reach of all, whether they be rich or poor. Their affliction will be their title to comforts and advantages which, while blessed with health and the full enjoyment of their faculties, they might have desired in vain. But what is more important, they will have one ground of hope for their recovery, which nothing but the establishment of some great institution of this nature could place within the reach of many: they will have the benefit of the experience acquired, as we may hope, by some man of mind, who, with the daily opportunity of observing cases of insanity in all its forms, will be able to appreciate correctly the first symptoms of a gradual return to reason, and to give, in time, to the sufferer his kind and intelligent aid.

"In the conduct of these institutions it has been wonderful to observe what effects are produced by the individual character and influence of the superintendent. It seems to be indispensable to success in any great degree that he should possess remarkable qualifications, both physical and mental. His manner, his appearance, his deportment, the eye, the tone of voice, the temper, must all combine, it is said, to produce that ascendancy over the mind, and that control over the will of the insane patient, which is necessary to produce confidence and procure repose, and without which, indeed, it would be dangerous, if not impossible, to allow that liberty which is so essential to recovery, and which forms the pleasing distinction between the present and former methods of treatment.

"Fifty years ago, those who might have witnessed the erection of a vast building like this for the reception of the insane, might naturally have had in their imagination, when they looked forward to its completion, successive ranges of gloomy and comfortless cells, resounding with the cries of miserable maniacs, chained down upon their beds of straw, and shuddering at the sight of their harsh keeper, who held only that dominion over them which he had acquired by force or by terror. Now, the imagination can dwell with something more than complacency upon the scenes which may be expected to be witnessed within the walls and grounds of a Lunatic Asylum.

"The cheerful walk—the luxurious bath—the soothing music—the innocent games—the numberless reliefs from the tedious weariness of life, which active benevolence can invent; all, it is true, enjoyed under a delusion, but still enjoyed—these are the practices we read of in such institutions at the present day: and is it not a blessed change? Can we be too thankful to those devoted enthusiasts in the cause of humanity to whom the world is indebted for it? Who dare say that he has no personal interest in the consolation that such an evil has been found, not in many cases but in most, to admit of such mitigation?

"Let us consider who are the insane. Not those only whom idle follies have bewildered, or vice besotted—or imprudence exposed to misfortune—or guilt overwhelmed with remorse—No! Among the inmates of mad-houses have been at all times found some of the most amiable spirits of our kind, some whose very virtues, it would seem, being carried to excess, have disturbed the balance of their mind. Here we see one, who, for some inscrutable purpose of Providence, doubtless wise and just, as we shall know hereafter, has in his blood or in his brain (for who can solve the mystery?) the seeds of hereditary insanity.—There another, who has lost his reason by chaining down his mind to the abstract problems of mathematical science, or perplexing himself amidst the combinations of mechanical powers, or with the boundless infinity of astronomical calculations. Who can have a claim to sympathy if these have not? It is to such ardent minds that we owe, in a great measure, the elevation of our race. Forgetting that "*they had their treasure in earthen vessels,*" they allowed themselves to be nobly reckless in pursuit of science, not heeding the great truth, that none of nature's laws can be disregarded with impunity. To inferior men it would seem as if there were scarcely a limit to the researches of some minds; yet none have felt more plainly or expressed more strongly than the Bacons and Newtons of mankind, that there are boundaries which the human intellect must ever strive in vain to pass. Stopping, with submissive reverence, short of these limits, they may continue to live the benefactors of their species, but, rashly endeavoring to reach beyond them, nature breaks down under the hopeless effort. And we may be assured that if it were given to us in such cases to look into the mysteries of the mental structure (if I may be pardoned the misuse of the expression), it would often be appalling to perceive how frightfully thin is the partition which separates the noblest flights of genius and the grandest speculations from the wild dreams of the visionary or the ravings of the maniac.

"Then again, how many of the best and purest minds sink under the oppression of religious melancholy? It is the unhappy error of their nature to dwell with gloomy dread only on the aveng-

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*Extract from Presentment of the Grand Jury of the Home District, 4th April, 1842.*

The Jurors aforesaid further present, that they have visited this temporary Lunatic Asylum, and have derived equal satisfaction from an examination into its management and condition. Here, too, order and cleanliness prevail throughout, while the soothing and humane system of treatment, which the improved science and enlightened benevolence of the present day have substituted for the rigorous and coercive regulations by which such institutions were formerly governed, has been productive here, as it has been everywhere else, of the most beneficial and gratifying consequences; conducive alike to the present quiet and comfort, and to the ultimate recovery and restoration to society of the unfortunate patients confined therein.

In illustration of this pleasing fact, the Jurors beg to report, that from the Returns exhibited to them by the Medical Superintendent of this establishment, it appears that since it was opened, fifteen months ago, there have been admitted 76 patients, of whom 40 have been discharged cured; three discharged relieved; three have died of corporal diseases; leaving at present in the Asylum thirty,—of whom sixteen are idiots, and incurable, and five are convalescent.

The Jurors regret to find, however, that an institution which has rendered already so much benefit to society, and which is capable of being made more comprehensively useful, is now languishing for want of the necessary support to maintain its existence. It appears that during the fifteen months it has been in operation, it has been supported almost entirely upon the credit of the institution,—that

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ing attributes of a Creator, whose works around them are everywhere teeming with benevolence and beauty. Grief, too, sends its votaries;—grief for wounded affections—or ruined fortunes, generally the most overwhelming in the kindest natures. And even with regard to those (perhaps the greater number) whose intemperate excesses or perverted passions have led to the ruin of their intellect, how seldom can we tell, that if we knew the force of their temptations, or could make allowance for the due pressure of adverse circumstances, or the absence of early discipline, we should not feel them to be much more deserving of compassion than of reproach?

“Whatever may be the cause of their calamity, it is a delightful thought that

‘When nature being oppress’d, commands the mind  
To suffer with the body,’

the Directors of the Asylum will be enabled, by the humane care of their government, to proclaim to all alike, that

‘What comfort to this great decay may come  
Shall be supplied.’

“Nothing can be conceived more desolate than their condition, with all the alleviation that man can devise for it. In the expressive language of Scripture: ‘their Sun is gone down while it is yet day.’ It is not enough for us to say that the fault may have been their own—that ‘the corruptible body hath pressed down the soul, and the earthly tabernacle weighed down their mind—that mind that mused upon many things.’ It is their greatest misfortune if they have missed that only consolation under affliction and the only security against the ills of life, which we shall be happy, indeed, if we can preserve to the end—a constant sense of a superintending Providence, and the mediation of an atoning Saviour—a humble resignation to the will of our wise and bountiful Creator, with a sincere and firm belief in the goodness and wisdom of all His dispensations. It is this check only which can arrest (if anything can) the arm of the suicide and fix the wavering reason in the balance, when depressed by the calamities or agitated by the perplexities of life. This only can enable us to say, with the calm assurance which human pride knows not: ‘We are troubled on every side but not distressed; we are perplexed but not in despair; persecuted but not forsaken; cast down but not destroyed.’

“Interesting as this subject is, I feel that an apology is due from me for having presumed to detain you so long. The honor done to this occasion by the attendance of so large an assemblage, is a fitting mark of respect to the public authorities of the country under whose auspices this great Provincial work of charity is proceeding. It must be gratifying also to the Government who have consented to undertake the office of Commissioners under the Statute, and will animate them in the discharge of their responsible duties. The erection of this Asylum will form hereafter an event of no slight interest in the history of Canada. It will mark the time from which one distressing want has been effectually supplied; and it will show how earnestly this people, at an early period, desired to emulate the example of their mother country, whose numberless and munificent public charities claim for her a distinction even more glorious than her acknowledged supremacy in arts and arms.”

is to say, upon credit obtained in the expectation that money would be advanced by Government to liquidate the debts contracted; or upon the personal credit of the Medical Superintendent and Commissioners.

GEORGE GURNETT,  
*Foreman.*

*Copy of a Letter from DR. DUNLOP, M.P.P., to the Hon. S. B. HARRISON.*

TORONTO, 22nd November, 1841.

MY DEAR HARRISON,—Dr. Rees, conceiving that you would be more apt to attend to the representations of a representative than his own, has requested me to write to you on the state of the Asylum under his charge. He is quite out of funds,—the creditors are clamorous, and the servants are in a state of mutiny: so that, if not speedily relieved, he will have no alternative but to dismiss the lunatics and lock up the doors. This would be a sad pity, for they are doing well in all cases, and in many the cures have been miraculous. Indeed, I never saw an establishment of the kind so well conducted. Now, if these poor people are sent home to their friends before they are completely cured, a relapse will be the certain consequence. Do try to get something done.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM DUNLOP.

To Hon. S. B. Harrison,  
Provincial Secretary.

*Copy of Letter from DR. REES to Hon. S. B. HARRISON, Provincial Secretary.*

TORONTO, November 21, 1842.

SIR,—Impelled by the most urgent pecuniary difficulties, legal proceedings and legal expenses, I desire again to call your attention to my recent communications on the subject of remuneration for my professional services to the Provincial Lunatic Asylum, to which I have not received even an acknowledgment. That I should be exposed to such painful embarrassment without any attention to my claims, during a period of nearly two years—the smallest sum excepted, on account, but not equivalent to rent and fuel, which I was to receive—is really too bad, when considering that I have devoted my undivided attention to the responsible and very *onerous* duties of the office I hold. I do trust, that what the Statute provides as the salary of the Medical Superintendent will be meted to me, it being the distinct understanding with myself and the Commissioners, on my entering on the duty, that I was to receive the same. Your earliest attention to the subject will oblige

Your obedient, humble servant,

WM. REES.

To the Hon. S. B. Harrison,  
Provincial Secretary.

*From W. B. JARVIS, Commissioner, Lunatic Asylum, to the Hon. R. S. JAMESON, Chairman of Commissioners, Provincial Lunatic Asylum.*

TORONTO, 20th May, 1844.

MY DEAR SIR,—I really think that we should, as Commissioners, take some steps for the relief of Dr. Rees, with respect to his salary. His affairs are in a

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most embarrassed state ; and the annoyance which I, as Sheriff, am compelled to give him, is quite sufficient to render him incapable of attending to his duties. Can we fall upon any plan to obtain for him instant and permanent relief? In the matter of allowance for house-rent, although the subject has been repeatedly before the Commissioners, yet nothing has been done to benefit the Doctor.

Yours, &c.,

W. B. JARVIS,  
Commissioner, Lunatic Asylum.

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*From DR. DUNLOP to R. S. JAMESON, V.C.*

TORONTO, 22nd April, 1845.

MY DEAR JAMESON,—As I understand you are Chairman of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum,—as a man who has watched over these matters, from the drawing of the first Report, 14 years ago, and from having visited a great number of such institutions at home, in the year 1833, I naturally and necessarily feel a great interest in the welfare of that institution. Since the period of its first establishment I have repeatedly inspected it, professionally, and I am again willing to certify that it is most ably and judiciously conducted.

Under all these circumstances, and considering the number of patients that have been treated and the number cured, it is most unfair and unjust that Dr. Rees should not have been paid the salary which the Statute allows him. Had he come to Montreal at the beginning of the Session, I have no doubt that it would have been carried through, and at the beginning of next Session, if God spares me, I shall commence the Session with it, and it would be much more proper were you and the original Committee to memorialize the Governor General (who is a straight-forward man) to do Dr. Rees justice.\*

Yours, &c.,

W. DUNLOP.

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*Honorable V. C. JAMESON to Honorable H. SHERWOOD.*

KING STREET, TORONTO.

MY DEAR SIR,—I not long ago wrote to my honorable friend, Sir Allan MacNab, upon the subject of the claims which I cannot but think Dr. Rees possesses upon Government, in respect to past services and continuing injuries, sustained in the cause of humanity, ending in closing of his professional career without a moral imputation upon his character, but a difference of opinion as to the internal government of the institution of which he may be said to be the founder. You are at present disconnected with the Government, and therefore may be supposed to be a disinterested advocate. Several of the Commissioners, who, with myself, presided over the Lunatic Asylum when Dr. Rees was the Medical Superintendent, feel that there is in his case one of hitherto unrequited merit.

The accompanying documents, which have already been before Parliament, establish the most important facts connected with his case.

If you can use your proper moral influence in what many deem to be a good cause, you will, at all events, give much pleasure to your faithful servant,

ROBERT S. JAMESON.

To the Honorable Henry Sherwood, &c., &c., &c.

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\* In consequence of this unexpected harsh treatment, together with the abandonment of all private interest for those of the Asylum, a foreclosure and total loss of a valuable estate in the City of Toronto resulted, well known to have been valued at £20,000.

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*Bishop of Toronto to Sir A. N. MacNAB, Bart.*

TORONTO, November 27th, 1860.

MY DEAR SIR,—Now that you have returned to public life, I bring before you the case of Dr. Rees. I need not enter into particulars, as I believe you are better acquainted with them, from the proceedings of the Legislature and your own enquiries, than I am. It is enough for me to state that he has been struggling for many years to obtain redress; and now that his means are wasted away, he requires assistance more than ever. The investigation made in his case establishes two points: 1st, that while in the public service, he was so much injured as to become unable to follow his profession, so as to earn a respectable living; 2nd, that the scanty aid granted him was small and temporary, and did not meet his necessity.\* He requires help in the shape of a moderate pension, for I believe his resources are entirely exhausted, and to attempt to return to his profession would be useless. The various documents which he possesses, and especially the proceedings of the House of Assembly, will more than justify the Government in granting him a competency during the remainder of his life. Refresh your memory by glancing over these documents, and suffer me to prevail on you to commence your career as a public man by procuring Dr. Rees tardy justice.

JOHN TORONTO.

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*A General Statement, being the substance of a Communication addressed to the Provincial Secretary, April, 1858 (to have preceded the Appendix to this Report).*

TORONTO, 6th April, 1858.

SIR,—I have on several occasions, since my connection with the Provincial Lunatic Asylum, addressed the Government on my claims to compensation for injuries sustained by me in the public service, which resulted in continued and continuing inability to pursue my profession. These claims have been duly considered and reported upon by the Commissioners of the Asylum and by two Committees of the Legislature, but I have not received any permanent provision, pursuant to their recommendations, and have only received, from time to time, promises of some office of some emolument, and of such a nature as would be suited to my impaired state of health, which promises have not been fulfilled; and I have now, therefore, to urge the subject again on the consideration of the Government, with a view, I trust, to their immediately doing what the justice of the case demands.

While practising my profession successfully at Quebec, I was led to observe the very inefficient, objectionable and inhuman mode of treatment of pauper lunatics, for whom no provision could be found but incarceration in the common gaols, with a treatment infinitely worse than that of convicted felons, and I took a great interest in endeavouring to ameliorate their condition, and, at my own expense, visited England and other countries to examine into the mode of conducting institutions for the insane, and the mode of treatment. My subsequent exertions to procure the founding, in these Provinces, of suitable establishments were at last crowned with success, and resulted in provision being made for the establishment,

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\* The temporary aid referred to was barely equal to a half-year's salary of that of the Medical Superintendent of the Asylum, and not half per cent. on the vast sums saved to the Province by the Petitioner, no less in the selection of an appropriate site for the permanent building, in place of the one he caused to be abandoned, than in the general economy of the institution, the entire medical and surgical duties of which he performed without any medical assistant.

both here and in Lower Canada, of the lunatic asylums now in active and successful operation, and the opening at Toronto, in the meantime, of an asylum for the reception of the insane, so that immediate relief should be given to that unfortunate class of our fellow-beings.

My services in bringing about these results have always been recognized, and I was appointed the first Medical Superintendent, though on a very inadequate salary. In organizing and conducting the infant establishment, I had to encounter great difficulties, pecuniary and otherwise, which, however, by zeal and untiring energy, I surmounted, and I succeeded in managing the institution in such a manner as to elicit, and I trust deserve, very distinguished expressions of approbation.\*

In support of the foregoing statements, I beg reference to the first paragraph of the Report of the Committee of the House of Assembly, of 11th July, 1851, herewith enclosed, marked A; the Report of Dr. Spears (enclosed) marked B; extract of Report of Dr. Dunlop (enclosed), marked C; letter of W. B. Jarvis (enclosed), marked D; and letters of Dr. Dunlop, marked H. Enclosed will also be found the Report of a Committee of the Commissioners of the Asylum, of 1846, on my case, and a Resolution of the Commissioners founded thereon, marked F, and an extract from the Report of the Committee of Assembly of 1846, marked G; and I also beg to draw attention to the letters of the late Dr. Grasett, Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, at Quebec, marked J; and of the Rev. H. J. Grasett, marked K, as to my professional standing, &c., previous to accepting the management of the institution.

While engaged in that management, I received injuries from two lunatics, which left serious effects, from which I have never ceased to suffer, and do not expect I ever shall. I made application almost immediately for compensation, supported by the evidence and the above recommendation of the Asylum Commissioners (F). See the Report of the Committee of the House of Assembly on that occasion (1846).

In 1851, the matter was again reported on by a Committee of the House of Assembly, and it then appeared that my health was still seriously impaired, notwithstanding efforts to establish it, by travel and otherwise, and the Committee recommended me as a fit subject for a provision. I refer to the Report (A) and to the Appendix thereto, and particularly the letters of Staff-Surgeon Delmage (L) and Dr. Badgley (M).

A Resolution, founded on that Report, was prepared; but in consequence of the absence (the result of sudden illness) of Sir Allan MacNab, who had the case in hand, it was not proposed, and the Session unfortunately closed without any action being had upon it.

Since then, I have never ceased to apply for some relief, having been, however, quite willing to take it in the shape of an office†—the duties of which would be such as I could perform with efficiency—which species of relief I would hitherto have preferred to a mere pension, which, however, in consequence of increasing years and decreasing health, I would now rather prefer.

\* A soothing non-restraint and entirely new system was adopted, restoring the unfortunate inmates, the most neglected, confirmed and violent cases of insanity that will ever be seen again, perhaps, in this Province, to all the comforts and freedom, pure air, exercise and amusements of ordinary hospital patients; and by tranquilizing the nervous, vascular and voluntary systems under proper classification and energetic medical and moral treatment, which was followed by results alike gratifying to all interested, and which are fully detailed in the various Reports of the Institution.

† As then proposed and promised by the Government, and on the ground of which promise (see the letters on this Report of the Hon. G. Sherwood to the Hon. F. Hincks; also, of Drs. Nelson and Herrick, to the Provincial Secretary), I proceeded to Quebec for the purpose of offering, among other suggestions, one for establishing a Provincial Board of Prison and Sanitary Inspectors,—since carried out by the Government, and a Board consisting of five Inspectors appointed.

My claims to present consideration, then, are principally, my having organized and fostered the first Provincial establishment, through great difficulties and at a great pecuniary loss to myself (for the salary was most inadequate, to say nothing of my own resources being drawn upon for the Institution, and putting it on such a highly satisfactory footing as appears by the Reports of Drs. Spears and Dunlop (B and C). The inadequacy of my salary abundantly appears throughout the accompanying documents (see B, N and O). I may add, also, another ground for consideration: it was on my remonstrance that a most objectionable site, in the immediate neighbourhood of a marshy swamp, which had been selected for the erection of the permanent building here, was abandoned. If erected there, the building would have been found uninhabitable for the unfortunate class of patients for whom it was intended, which would have rendered its abandonment—after costing £150,000—necessary, thus entailing a heavy loss on the Province.

I was also, subsequently, mainly instrumental in preventing an equally objectionable site being fixed upon at Kingston.

These are notorious facts, capable of proof on reference to the proper quarter.

On all these grounds, therefore, I beg respectfully to ask the Government to make me compensation for the past out of the Lunatic Asylum funds in hand,\* and also to award a permanent provision for the future for my declining years.

In addition to the foregoing papers referred to, I would beg reference to the following:—

Letter of the late Vice-Chancellor Jameson to Sir Allan MacNab, 12th May, 1852, marked Q.

Letter of Sir Allan MacNab to Hon. F. Hincks, 7th July, 1852, marked R.

Letter of Vice-Chancellor Jameson to Hon. H. Sherwood, September, 1852, marked S.

Letter of Hon. H. Sherwood to Dr. Rees, 6th October, 1852, marked T.

Letter of Dr. Herrick to Hon. F. Hincks, 17th August, 1857, marked V.

Letter of Hon. W. Cayley to Hon. F. Hincks, no date, marked V.

Letter of Dr. Nelson to Hon. Mr. Morin, 23rd November, 1854, marked W.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WM. REES.

The Honorable  
The Provincial Secretary.

*To the Honorable CHARLES ALLEYN, Provincial Secretary, Quebec.*

TORONTO, March 6, 1861.

SIR,—My claims, the subject on which I had the honor to address you in April, 1858, still remaining unadjusted, I beg leave to transmit the within medical certificates and evidence of the continued ill effects and consequences of the injuries received by me in the public service, which, together with the other papers already before Government, cannot fail, I humbly conceive, fully to establish what I have, from the commencement of my application, constantly urged as a just claim.

\* I beg to call attention to the fact, that when I first applied for compensation, and for many years afterwards, there was a large fund applicable to such a purpose in the Lunatic Asylum Tax—  
which, in 1858, was so productive as to yield over \$30,000, left balance when it ceased. What amount  
remained when the tax ceased to be collected I do not recollect, but it was a very considerable  
sum.—W. R.

On the suggestion of the Honorable F. Hincks, the late Honorable Henry Sherwood, many years since, proposed to me that, by way of compensation, I should accept some easy office, the duties of which I could perform, notwithstanding my impaired health; but no such situation offered itself for a long time, or until an Act was passed for appointing a Board of Prison Inspectors (a suggestion for which the public are indebted to myself). A place in that Board, with a salary, I felt disposed to accept, knowing the duties were such as I could fulfil satisfactorily to the public, if they were not too onerous for my state of health, which I then thought would not be. Under these circumstances, and being willing to work for the public as long as I could, I became an applicant for one of these Inspectorships, which, however, was not conferred on me. I therefore urge my application for the permanent provision contemplated by the Report of the Committee above referred to; and it seems scarcely necessary to draw attention to the fact, that my application for office under such circumstances and from such motives, cannot possibly militate against my claim, so fully established by the evidence and medical certificates now sent and already before the Government,—which leave no doubt of my permanent ill health, arising from injuries received in the public service, and consequent inability to follow my profession—facts which are quite consistent with a desire and ability, some time since expressed, to fulfil the duties of an office of a particular description.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your very obedient, humble servant,  
WM. REES.

*Correspondence subsequent to the Report of the Committee of the Legislative Assembly—Session of 1861.*

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
Quebec, 26th August, 1861.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General has had under his consideration, in Council, your Petition, with its enclosures, praying that the recommendation submitted in a Report of a Committee of Parliament during its last Session, in favor of some provision or allowance being made to you for injuries received while in discharge of your duties as Medical Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum at Toronto, in the year 1845, be taken into consideration, and that any such allowance take effect from the period when the injuries were inflicted, as recommended by the said Report.

His Excellency directs me to inform you that the Legislature has not placed at his disposal any funds out of which any provision or allowance can be made to you.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,  
G. POWELL,  
Acting Assistant Secretary.

W. Rees, Esq., M.D.

TORONTO, 11th October, 1861.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 26th August, informing me that His Excellency the Governor General in Council had had under consideration my Petition and its enclosures, and intimating that the Legislature had not placed at his disposal any funds out of which any provision or allowance could be made to me.

I should have replied before this, had I not been suffering from serious indisposition, arising from my general ill health, aggravated by travel and my long detention at Quebec, expecting my case to be taken up, and the mental suffering arising from hope deferred.

I now recur to the subject, because, although I gratefully acknowledge the recognition by the Government of my claim, and their virtual acquiescence in the strong recommendation of the Parliamentary Committee of last Session, I cannot believe that, on reconsideration, His Excellency in Council will be of opinion that the answer I have received meets the case.

Since the introduction of Responsible Government, it has been a well-established practice that all *money grants* must be *initiated by the Government*, and whenever an attempt has been made by an independent member of the House to infringe this rule, it has been met by a prompt rebuke. The most the Committee could have done, under these circumstances, was to investigate the case, and recommend *generally*; this they did in very strong terms, after a careful and close examination of facts, and it was absolutely out of their power to *place funds at His Excellency's disposal*; but in their very favorable recommendation they afforded the Government the strongest assurance that whatever provisions the Government, in the exercise of the duty constitutionally devolving on them, should submit to the House, would meet their cordial approval.

On former occasions I was informed that the Government only desired a Report from the Legislature as a ground for action, and to justify a provision such as my case deserved; this ground was furnished last Session.

I submit, therefore, that I have done all that can be expected of me, and that the House have done all that can be expected from them, until a provision is submitted to them by the Ministry, adequate to my claims, as admitted, in which, doubtless, they will readily concur; and that it would be cruel towards me, at my advanced age, and in my very critical state of health, to require me to go to the labor and expense of another visit to Quebec, to make another appeal to the Legislature; and that the latter, after the thorough investigation of last Session and the Committee's very favorable Report, might, however much they sympathized with me, not unreasonably decline to enter again on the subject.

I have therefore respectfully to request that His Excellency in Council will cause to be included in the Estimates for next Session such adequate provision for me as will carry out the strong recommendation of the Committee, and that I may receive such an assurance of his intention as will relieve my mind from the suspense under which I am and have long been laboring.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your very obedient servant,

WM. REES.

The Hon. the Provincial Secretary,  
Quebec.

TORONTO, 16th January, 1862.

SIR,—From the period which has elapsed since my last communication, and under the most anxious desire to simplify, facilitate and make every sacrifice calculated to afford a prompt settlement of my claims, which have been already urged in three Reports of the Legislature, and have met with recognition from the Government, as well as the virtual acquiescence of the Parliamentary Committees, I beg leave to suggest for your consideration and that of the Government, the following moderate and very reasonable proposition, viz.: That the provision in my favor, contemplated by the Legislature in its Reports and Resolutions, be

awarded me to the present period only, leaving the future out of consideration, and that it be computed, with interest, at the same low rate as that given to certain other civil officers recently placed on the retired list,—£300 per annum.

I am aware that this sum, proposed as compensation, is considerably less than the pension to which I am justly entitled, from the position which I formerly occupied as Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum; yet I am willing to waive any scruples on that point, so as to arrive at some definite adjustment of my claims. I abstain from making any allusion to the ruinous losses I have sustained, or the serious expenses which I have incurred, personally and through agents, by journeys to, and detentions at, the seat of Government, during the past fifteen years, in the just prosecution of my suit.

One half of the amount which I suggest as a settlement shall be paid to the Government for old Crown Land arrears, which will thus be secured; the balance is more than anticipated by loans, to meet expenses incurred by the delay which has taken place. I would submit that this is a miserable result of forty years' professional life, the whole of which, I can conscientiously say, has been zealously, energetically and successfully devoted to the social improvement and material interests of my adopted country, and by which, I firmly believe, many thousands of pounds have been annually saved to the Government.

In a letter, dated Quebec, 26th August, 1861, I was informed by the Provincial Secretary, that notwithstanding the very favorable report of the Committee of the Legislature at its last Session, they had placed no funds at the disposal of His Excellency for the liquidation of my claim. I enclose a copy of my reply to that communication; but I would confidently submit *that there is a fund* out of which such compensation might be paid, viz., the surplus of the old Lunatic Asylum Tax, which, when that tax assumed, under a new status, the name of the Upper Canada Building Fund, was handed over to the credit of that fund.

At the period of the enactment of that Statute, it did not probably appear that there was any object connected with the Asylum which had a claim on that balance; but I would suggest, as consistent with reason and equity, that if any such claim should subsequently appear, the Building Fund should, to the extent of such claim, be considered debtor to the former Asylum Fund—in fact, that for any legitimate object that balance should be considered as still in existence.

I write you especially, as representing this section of the Province, and trust that, as other members of the Executive have unequivocally assented to the justice of my appeal, you will now give my letter your most careful consideration, and assist me to a recognition of my claim in the Estimates of the approaching Session.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WM. REES.

The Honorable  
The Attorney General.

QUEBEC, 14th August, 1863.

SIR,—I have the honor to request you will be good enough to lay the papers in my case, now in your office, before the Hon. the Executive Council.

I indulge the hope that a re-consideration of the matter will yet induce His Excellency in Council to render me that justice which repeated Committees of Parliament have reported me entitled to.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient, humble servant,

(Signed) WM. REES.

To the Hon. F. Blair,  
Provincial Secretary.

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We, the undersigned, Members of the Provincial Parliament, respectfully, yet strongly, recommend Dr. Rees' case to the notice of the Government, believing, as we do, that it is one deserving an earnest and favorable consideration.

John Macdonald,	J. Cockburn,
A. M. Smith,	E. Rémillard,
J. G. Smith,	A. Gagnon,
Isaac Buchanan,	P. J. Huot,
James Cowan,	C. B. DeBoucherville,
Joseph Rymal,	A. Knight,
W. Parker,	Robert Bell,
William Notman,	John Scoble,
T. C. Wallbridge,	Thomas Higginson,
W. McGiverin,	L. Burwell,
H. Munro,	A. McKellar,
H. McConkey,	A. McKenzie,
R. Bell,	J. B. Daoust,
John White,	Geo. Irvine,
Walter Ross,	W. J. Conger,
James Dickson,	David E. Price,
R. Macfarlane,	J. Carling,
Thomas Scatcherd,	T. R. Ferguson,
J. B. Pouliot,	T. C. Street,
J. B. Dorion,	John Simpson,
W. Shanly,	J. H. Pope,
H. G. Joly,	George Jackson,
R. J. Cartwright,	J. J. Ross.
Alex. Morris,	

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TUESDAY, 13th October, 1863.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have long thought that you should have got additional compensation for your services and sufferings in the public service. Should the Government bring down a reasonable grant, I shall not oppose it. I am confined to my room just now, but you can show this note to any one.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN A. MACDONALD.

Dr. Rees,  
&c., &c.

# APPENDIX:

## CONTAINING SUGGESTIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, &c.

### SUGGESTION FOR A DEPARTMENT OR MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

Omnipotent as is the body politic in all that relates to the affairs of State, to free government, and the establishing a wide intellectual commonwealth, the civil polity, justice, the rights of humanity, and sound philosophy, in all that affects public health and human life, have hitherto scarcely been recognised. The ravages and cost of war may be great, yet would the statesman view, through the mirror of vital statistics and medical history, the havoc made in a State by pestilence and neglect of the public health, the depopulation and loss, not by thousands but by millions—even dethronement and loss of empire having occurred in various parts of the world from this cause†—they would perhaps admit that the care of the public health was as much entitled to be constituted a department of government as public defence, particularly since it is universally acknowledged that national strength is more dependent upon men and mental, than material capital, or, in other words, on the sanitary condition of the people. Quarantine, sanitary and other laws are enacted; vast sums are annually lavished on institutions for the indigent and afflicted, but where are the results to be seen? in whose control do they lie? in whose department do they centre? and what responsibility, through Parliament, to the public, is there that funds so appropriated are properly applied or the statutes obeyed? In what direction is the public to look on the occurrence of an outbreak, or the invasion of an epidemic, or for relief from the thousand-and-one ills arising from over-crowded institutions, defective ventilation and sewage, by which they are surrounded, but to which they are for the most part, in the absence of such protection, insensible? On such occasions, it not unfrequently happens that both Government and society become panic-stricken, and are thrown on the voluntary aid and direction of a profession which, except on such occasions, is by the Government almost ignored, yet in whose ranks are to be found men as brave, patriotic and self-sacrificing as any class a Government or country ever possess.

Law, land, agriculture, and public works, are represented, but a *Department, or Minister of Public Health*, the most vital to a country, has no existence in the Government, although the public expenditure on charitable, sanitary and penal institutions frequently amounts to fully half a million of dollars annually, a large amount of which might be saved by the exercise of greater circumspection in the selection of sites for buildings, in their location, skill in their structure, and in their general economy, the continued defects of which, added to their insufficiency of accommodation, having been the everlasting theme of grand jury and other presentiments throughout the Province. It is, therefore, due to society and to the medical profession that this grave subject receive the consideration it merits, particularly on the present very auspicious occasion, when the Provinces are about to inaugurate a new Government and a new constitution, but, above all other considerations, from the fact that similar views are admitted and appear recently to obtain in England, resulting in the passing of an Act by the Imperial Legislature as follows:—“An Act for vesting in the Privy Council certain powers for the protection of the Public Health.”—3rd August, 1852.

To the profession, whose rights have never been thus asserted, and to the Legislature, in whose hands rest the interests of society generally, this suggestion, worthy perhaps the emulation of older Governments, is committed, of providing for a Minister of Public Health; or, should this title imply the necessity of going out with every change of Ministry, or removal periodically, let the Department be designated that of the Inspector General of Health, which, if faithfully organized cannot but redound to the great honor and welfare of the country and the greater economy and efficiency of the Government.

Experience also teaches that all corporate towns and cities should possess a permanent Council of Health, with a medical man as its chairman, and a certain police force, if any exists, under its direction. Such Council should have jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to the public health.

To the legal profession, judgeships, silk gowns, and nearly all crown appointments, liberal fees, and liberal retiring allowances, are ever open; but to the defenders of the public health, who are, night and day, in the field, for the most part without emolument or honor, the portals of government are ever closed. Representation and responsibility in the Government, or in a recognised department, and a liberal pecuniary annual grant in aid of medical science (the science of public health), are due alike to society and the profession; and it must appear matter of astonishment that in the present boasted age of enlightenment, the protection of life and alleviation of human misery, which ought to have been the first, is made the last duty of national Governments; and I may here further observe that each Province ought to have its College of Physicians and Surgeons,

† The annals of epidemic cholera shew that from the year 1817 to 1832 no less than 100,000,000 souls perished; that at a period further remote 23,840,000 shared the same fate from plague, when the contagion lasted five years, carrying off two Queens, two Mayors, six Aldermen, and forty-five medical men. But as the history of epidemics and the doctrine of contagion would occupy many volumes, and as we have had sufficient experience on our own shores to enlighten us on its fatality, and to warn us to keep our own house in order, suffice it simply to remark, that to medical science as the handmaid of civilization and of security to society the public must look, and that it will be incumbent on the Government to foster, by annual grants, however limited (say £1000), the establishment of a College of Physicians and Surgeons in each Province.

with its charter of privileges and immunities, where all local medical institutions and medical interests may be represented and their prerogatives asserted and upheld, for the common weal, and under whose control all fees accruing from the issue of diplomas or licenses (of which there should be but one for the united Provinces), and governmental grants, may be placed for the purposes of a medical library and museum, for establishing a fund for prize essays on medical science, and for liberally rewarding, annually, the College Council of Examiners. By such means only can the noble science of medicine realize its just aspirations, or the public its just claims upon it.

It must be admitted that all enlightened Governments should assume the responsibility of the public health, and should be as prepared to defend society from the calamities of epidemic invasion as from war; for, to use the words of a late writer, "the fate of nations is, at times, far more dependant on the laws of physical life than on the will of potentates or the collective effects of human action, and that these prove utterly impotent when opposed to the powers of nature."

Could we but deduce from the grave facts of medical history bearing on the fatal calamities which have afflicted the human race in all ages, or find language to pourtray those of the present which may be prevented or assuaged but for criminal apathy, it may be justly presumed that the present appeal to Government on behalf of neglected humanity and medical science would not have been deemed necessary.

While referring to the subject of contagion and epidemics, it may be mentioned that during a four months' tour up the Mediterranean, and residence in some of the principal cities on its shores, I was subjected to the ordeal of quarantine no less than five times, by which I had the most ample experience afforded me of determining the merits of pre-conceived ideas which I have entertained during the last thirty years, viz., that all contagious diseases, and many that are not contagious, will ultimately be proved, through microscopical revelations, to arise from animalcules; but that no instrument, or sufficient means, have as yet been discovered to establish the fact, although no subject merits higher consideration.\*

#### GENERAL REMARKS.

Reference to certain documents has been herein made to prove that, though early the inception, yet so strongly were these works indicated from the infant state and rapid progress of the country, that they have been for the most part carried out, and as a means of stimulating energy, and enterprise, and of more effectually advocating an union of the Provinces, the construction of the Intercolonial Railway, and other objects of vital importance to the country, many years entertained, the prospectus of a proposed independent journal hereunto annexed was extensively circulated. Members of Parliament were addressed individually and through the Press in behalf of these great objects; and should the grand project of an union of the whole of the British North American Provinces be realized and a new constitution be inaugurated, let us hope that civil as well as political interests will be duly guarded.

Referring to the progress of Canada during the last forty years, I may mention that on my arrival in this Province, in 1819, its population amounted to 400,000. It now reaches nearly 3,000,000. That of Little York (now Toronto) was, ten years afterwards, but little over 2,000—it now numbers nearly 60,000. Common schools and jails were then the only institutions of the Province, and the old Lachine barge-canal its only public work. Its institutions now compete with the most forward; its public works, for magnitude and permanency, are unsurpassed.

An union of *all* the Provinces, in which the same spirit of emulation and progress has been evinced, it is manifest, must, under any circumstances of change, render them the pride and last hope of England, and command for them a position not inferior at least to that of any other State on this continent.

The Fortress of prejudice, in this new country, must be assailed as the great enemy of peace and progress, and as the abettor of crime and degradation, admitting, at the same time, that there is perhaps no class, even in the present advanced age of reason, altogether exempt from the baneful influence of fanaticism. Its cure may, however, be in part found by the offer of liberal prizes for essays annually, calculated to enlighten and excite emulation, and by the formation of one National Union Society.

LETTER ADDRESSED TO HON. R. B. DICKY, ONE OF THE PROVINCIAL DELEGATES ON  
THE SUBJECT OF THE BAY OF FUNDY AND BAY VERTE CANAL.

ST. LOUIS HOTEL,  
Quebec, 14th October, 1864.

SIR,—Allow me to draw your attention, and that of your honorable colleagues now assembled in conference, to a subject alike important to the whole of the proposed Confederated Provinces, and which

\* In the present as in the earliest ages, the chief prophylactics on which the natives of those countries mostly rely next to inspiring confidence, consist in enforcing rigid isolation, the subjecting of all articles which have been in contact with the afflicted to sulphurous fumigation, and the practice of having large smoking fires in and around their dwellings. Hence the virus to be apprehended from the use of sulphurous and mercurial baths skilfully devised against injury to the lungs, coupled, if indicated, by a judicious internal use of the same. The pathology of contagious diseases, public hygiene, mental therapeutics, medical history, and medical and vital statistics, are subjects worthy professional competition and the very highest rewards. Should these several observations merit approval, all should unite in a course thus calculated to raise the wretchedness and dignity of the profession.

may not be deemed unworthy of being glanced at on the present momentous occasion, viz., the construction of the Bay Verte (or what I have termed, commemoratively, the Union) Canal, projected and surveyed under the administration of the late Sir Howard Douglas, in the year 1825, a means by which the St. Lawrence navigation to the seaboard may be shortened a distance of from 600 to 700 miles, and by which propellers from Quebec may reach the Bay of Fundy in 48 hours,† and the estimated cost for which, by the most competent engineers, was then but £70,000 for vessels drawing eight feet of water, but which it is now estimated would cost little more if made for vessels drawing twenty feet of water—the actual distance of what is called hard cutting being three-fourths of a mile. Of the importance of thus shortening the St. Lawrence route from our vast inland seas and tributaries to the Atlantic, and affording Prince Edward Island and the Gulph more direct communication with the Atlantic, there can exist but one opinion. On this occasion I shall simply quote the following extract from the Engineer's able report on the subject:—

“ From testimony of respectable and experienced shipowners, it appears that the entrance to the canal on the Bay Verte side is safe and attended with no difficulty, and that the Cumberland basin side is peculiarly adapted to shelter and accommodation. On the whole this proposed canal presents so many advantages and facilities of transit, when compared with the probable expense, that it is only necessary for demonstration to examine a map of the country, to be convinced of the great and general importance of the measure.”

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

The Honble. ROBT. B. DICKEY,

One of the Delegates for Nova Scotia.

WM. REES.

#### LETTER TO HON. SIR E. P. TACHÉ.

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NUCLEUS OF A PERMANENT PROVINCIAL MILITARY AND MARINE FRONTIER FORCE, NAUTICAL SCHOOL AND TRAINING SHIPS.—WAYS AND MEANS FOR THEIR SUPPORT.

(Addressed to Minister of Militia 18th February, 1863, and August, 1864.)

SIR,—I sincerely trust that my suggestions for the formation of a Provincial Military Force, and a Provincial Marine, may meet your approbation and that of the Government.

It is proposed to form the nucleus of a permanent Provincial military and marine force, beginning with one regiment for each Province, and to apply to the British Admiralty for two vessels, of which they have many lying perfectly useless—one to be used for the gulf and coast service, the other as a hulk to be fitted up for the purposes of a nautical school and training ship, moored in the harbor of Quebec. Instead of our Provincial vessel being allowed to be frozen up with her crew all winter, the Commander shall, at the close of the season, refit and take on board from the nautical school as many youths thus trained to navigation and seamanship as he may accommodate, and sailing to some of the chief ports, return in the spring. The lads to remain under discipline until they become qualified for the mercantile marine or naval service, particularly as it is a fact long since established that the army and navy combine the advantages of both moral and penal institutions—that every soldier or sailor is in fact a check to his comrades, and that it is invariably found that they improve in their general conduct after entering the service. Hence the consideration as to whether it would not be better to send youthful delinquents, after a sound admonition and the holding out of encouragement and reward, to the proposed Provincial ship at Quebec, than to convict, and forever to degrade them, by consigning them to the convict cells of what is termed a Reformatory Prison, where, however, it must be admitted, they are treated with humanity by its guardians and the Government. It has to be borne in mind, also, that there are individuals having a natural disposition for a seafaring and military life, which neither circumstances nor education can control; whose inclinations can only be gratified and object effected, in a colony like this, by means of a plan similar to that proposed above. That by energy and effective discipline, both the proposed services may be elevated to the rank of any existing in any part of the world, there is no reason whatever to doubt.

Colonies, unlike European States, have not hitherto afforded the same opportunity to youth of

† Judging from the period occupied on a recent voyage, the trip from Quebec to Halifax direct may be performed in nearly the same space of time. It is, therefore, surprising that a more extensive direct trade by means of propellers, between the whole of the upper lake and that rising city, with all its advantages and proximity to the West Indies, has not long since been established, which can only be attributed to the fact that hitherto sail-in; rather than steam vessels have been employed, whilst the prevailing winds are from the west frequently nine to ten months in the year. The subject appears however, never to have obtained sufficient attention. Favour'd by both wind and tide descending the St. Lawrence, and by passing the coal regions, steam need only be used on the return voyage.

The City of Ottawa and Lake Huron Railway, for which a charter and certain lands were granted, viewed in connection with the improvement of the navigation from the St. Lawrence to that city, if carried out, could not fail to attract the great bulk of the trade from the upper lakes by the St. Lawrence, its natural channel, to the Atlantic, and by which from 600 to 700 miles may be saved, without, at the same time, interfering with the plan for a Huron and Ottawa Canal, but which, in consequence of the successful use of elevators and barges instead of ships, may be reduced to one-half its original estimate. Lastly, the advantage of finding for all vessels return cargoes of coal, salt, gypsum, and other minerals, abounding in the maritime ports, and where coal fields alone, if correctly stated in "Taylor's Coal Fields of the World," are estimated at 20,000 square miles, all of which improvements tend to an opening up of the great Pacific route,

any class of enlisting in the public service, and hence their being exposed to habits which tend to offences and crime.

\* I have stated that it would be cheaper, therefore, to provide for this class in their comparative infancy, when they may become the pride and security of their country instead of a burthen to it. The subject is one deserving the earliest and most serious attention of the Government.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

The Hon. Sir E. P. TACHE,  
Minister of Militia,  
&c., &c., &c.

[Signed,] WM. REES

HON. SIR E. P. TACHÉ TO DR. REES.

OFFICE OF MINISTER OF MILITIA,

Quebec, 9th July, 1864.

SIR,—I am directed by Sir Etienne Taché to acknowledge his receipt of your letter of June 29, in which you offer your views on the utility of establishing Provincial Corps and Training Ships for the employment of our vagrant youth, as a remedy for crime, in the place of Juvenile Reformatories and Penal Institutions—together with two tabular sketches of the cost of Regiments.

As regards the first, Sir Etienne desires me to express his acknowledgments for the trouble you have taken, though he says your proposal involves such vast and important changes in the internal policy of the Province that much time will be needed for its consideration.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WM. REES, Esq., M.D.,  
Quebec.

[Signed,] J. G. VANSITTART.

LETTER TO HON. SIR E. P. TACHÉ.

ST. LOUIS HOTEL,

27th July, 1864.

SIR,—Referring to your reply of the 9th instant, which I had the honor to receive from Mr. Vansittart, I feel desirous of correcting the impression that the proposed Provincial Corps and Training Ships are to be regarded as Penal Institutions exclusively for the vagrant youth of the Province, which is, I fear, calculated to prejudice both the plan and the service it is intended to promote. I therefore deem it proper to explain that the object contemplated is the very reverse, the prevention of vagrancy and crime, by affording to the indigent youth of the Province respectable employment and support, and to other classes preferment, in the Military and Naval service of their own to that of a foreign country the opportunity of acquiring proficiency in Naval discipline more especially.

That the plan suggested would supply important desiderata long since demanded, as well for the defences of the country and its commercial marine as for its social condition; and that its adoption would redound to the honor and elevation of the country few will deny.

It only remains to remark that should the plan be at any time carried out, that a situation in every way suited to the purposes of a Naval Arsenal exists at the north entrance of the River St. Charles, being a portion of the Jesuits' estate, on a part of which it was proposed to erect the Sailors' Home referred to in the within communication.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

To Sir E. TACHE,  
&c., &c., &c.,  
Quebec.

[Signed,] WM. REES.

\* As the subject of defence has at length been urged upon the attention of the Government, and as it must appear evident that by means of the Rideau and proposed Ottawa Canal, if constructed, the great lakes would be accessible from the ocean, all doubt as to the safety of Upper Canada and of her supremacy on those inland seas should be for ever set at rest; as, in addition to this security, her own inexhaustible resources in war material and facilities of construction are not equalled, perhaps, in any part of the world, Commercially considered, being 1000 miles shorter route to Europe than by the present navigation via the lakes and New York. The surprise must be that a work so vitally important to the security, settlement and commerce of the country at large, should not long ere this have been commenced. Viewed in connection with defence, no fortification that can be devised has stronger claims to attention; hence the importance of a joint provision, based on the security of land, by both the Imperial and Provincial Governments, for its immediate construction. The Manitowaning Island, opposite French River—its proposed Western terminus—abounding in the finest quality of stone, convict labor here might be advantageously employed. Lastly, this route being inland throughout its entire length, defying foreign blockade, and settled by a people proud of British connection, its claims cannot be too highly estimated.

[“ We believe the proposition to be a very admirable one, which deserves the attention of Her Majesty’s Government, and we hope to see the suggestion acted on. There is a very considerable class of lads hanging about the cities and larger towns of the Province, who could not be so well provided for in any other way.”—Editor *Montreal Gazette*.]

N. B.—The plan has been since suggested to some philanthropic gentlemen of Halifax, N. S., and encouragement is held out to its adoption by Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope, K.C.B., at present on that station. The ways and means for the support of a regiment of 500 strong in each Province, it is suggested, may be derived, to a considerable extent, from the reduced cost of maintaining our penal institutions and the present temporary volunteer service.

LETTER TO VICE-ADMIRAL SIR JAS. HOPE, ON NAUTICAL SCHOOLS.

QUEBEC, 10th October, 1864.

SIR,—You did me the honor recently, at Halifax, to say that if I would lay before you, in writing, my private views respecting a proposed application to the Lords of the Admiralty for “ hulks ” to be used as nautical schools and training ships, you would instruct me in the mode and form necessary to be observed in making such application. I beg, therefore, to submit that the object in contemplation is for the two-fold purpose of affording permanent protection and means of employment to the indigent youth of the Provinces; and, secondly, to form the nucleus of a mercantile marine and naval force which the increase in shipbuilding, the extension of our vast fisheries and nurseries for seamen, added to the general advancement of the British North American Provinces, have rendered expedient and highly desirable.

The circumstance of from 1000 to 1500 seamen being required annually to man the ships built in this Province alone, and there not being a native seaman in the Port of Quebec for want of such means and encouragement, whilst it is notorious that hundreds of boys could be rescued from extreme indigence who are at present exposed to the worst temptations and vice, and who are subject to no control, at once makes it apparent that the above plan possesses greater advantages in point of economy, discipline and control, than any other; and I am persuaded, particularly as, since my late interview with you, I have learned that there are several similar “ hulks ” in England, that the plan suggested would be appreciated by the Imperial Government, should it receive your recommendation.

It would doubtless be of importance to solicit our Provincial Government to make the application, and, as a matter of course, to either send for the vessels or defray the expere of their being sent out, and to return the whole of the sails, &c., not required.

The necessity and merits of the plan are equally applicable to Halifax and Quebec, the two chief maritime ports of British North America.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Vice-Admiral Sir JAMES HOPE, K. C. B.

WM. REES.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER OF SECRETARY OF THE ADMIALITY IN REPLY TO VICE-ADMIRAL SIR JAS. HOPE, K.C.B., OF THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY.

S.  
No. 632.

ADMIRALTY, 2nd December, 1864.

“ SIR,—I am commanded by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to acquaint you in reference to a letter from Dr. Rees, dated the 10th October, that they are prepared to grant the loan of the Chichester 50 gun Frigate, to be used as a Training Ship at Quebec; but, at the same time, they would call the attention of the Society to the large sum it would take to render her fit to cross the Atlantic.”

(Signed,) W. G. ROMAINE

To Vice-Admiral Sir JAMES HOPE, K.C.B.

LETTER TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALITY.

QUEBEC, 24th February, 1865.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 2nd December, 1865, addressed to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope, and forwarded to me by that officer, stating that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have been pleased to offer the loan of a 50-gun frigate for the purpose of a Training Ship at Quebec; which document has been laid by His Excellency Lord Monck before a Committee of our Provincial Parliament, whose action on this subject will be duly communicated to their Lordships. Whilst acknowledging the very gracious offer of their Lordships, it

is proper to remark that the suggestion was made by the writer to the Provincial Government, and not on behalf of any society.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

WM. REES.

To W. H. ROMAINE, Esq.,  
Secretary of the Navy.

LETTER OF COMMITTEE OF PRIVY COUNCIL FOR TRADE.

OFFICE OF COMMITTEE OF PRIVY COUNCIL FOR TRADE,  
MARINE DEPARTMENT,  
WHITEHALL, 10th December, 1862.

SIR,—I am directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st ultimo, on the subject of Sailors' Homes and in compliance with your request I am to enclose copies of the Rules, et cetera, in use at the Sailors' Homes at Well Street, and at Poplar in London, and at Liverpool.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

T. H. FARRER.

DR. WILLIAM REES,  
Quebec.

LETTER TO HIS EXCELLENCY LORD MONCK, GOVERNOR GENERAL, &C., &C.

MY LORD,—I have the honor to enclose herewith certain documents, on the subject of a Nautical School and Training Ship, including a Sailors' Home—a scheme which has for many years occupied my attention, and which I last summer brought under your Excellency's notice.

Admiral Hope, Commander on the West India Station, to whom I submitted my ideas when in Halifax last summer, has very kindly interested himself in the matter with the Lords of the Admiralty.

I shall feel obliged to your Excellency if you can favor me with an interview, when I can more fully explain my views on this important subject.

I have the honor to remain,  
Your obedient servant,

WM. REES.

R E P L Y .

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Quebec, 10th February, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—I am desired by His Excellency the Governor General to acknowledge your letter of yesterday's date, and to inform you that he will be glad to see you here to-morrow (Saturday), at two o'clock, p. m.

Yours truly,

(Signed,) J. G. IRVINE.

Dr. REES,  
&c., &c., &c.

LETTER TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE TO WHOM WAS REFERRED THE SUBJECT OF PROVIDING A NAUTICAL SCHOOL AND TRAINING SHIP.

SIR,—His Excellency the Governor General having been pleased to transmit to the Committee, of which you are Chairman, certain documents recently received from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, tendering for the acceptance of the Province a 50-gun ship for the above highly important objects at Quebec, and observing in said document that the suggestion has been regarded by their Lordships as emanating from, or on behalf of, a Society instead of the Province, I beg to observe that there is no doubt that had it been considered as having national objects in view, and had the fact been known to their Lordships, that Halifax, on behalf of the Maritime Provinces, contemplated following a similar example, the vessel would have been at once sent out, on the conditions simply that the sails and materials not required should be returned. The great objects in view being, firstly, to afford protection and instruction to the youth of the various Provinces, and to others

already engaged in a seafaring life, who may desire to perfect their knowledge and qualify for the naval service, the best opportunity of doing so;—secondly, the formation of a regularly organized Naval Reserve throughout the Provinces.

The details of the plan contemplated consist of a legally constituted Board of Examiners for Candidates for the Naval or Commercial Service, a system of Registration for Seamen, and a Sailors' Home. The circumstance of upwards of 1660 British and Foreign vessels and 40,000 seamen having entered the Port of Quebec during one season, and there being 3000 or 4000 seamen employed on our inland waters, sufficiently indicate the value and importance of the improvements proposed.

It only remains to remark, that should the ship—which is teak-built, and computed to have cost £50,000, and to last 30 to 40 years—be accepted in preference to marine drill sheds, an excellent, well-sheltered and convenient berth may be found for her, with from six to seven fathoms of water during the winter months, on the inside of the noble breakwater, 800 to 900 feet in length, at present under construction by the Quebec Harbor Commissioners.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WM. REES.

Quebec, 23rd February, 1865.

LETTER TO VICE-ADMIRAL SIR JAS. HOPE, K.C.B.

SIR,—In accordance with my promise to acquaint you what action had been taken by the Committee of our Provincial Parliament on the subject of the Training Ship, I beg to inform you that, owing to an adjournment of the House for a few months, sufficient time had not been afforded for the adoption of a Report, but I have every reason to believe that it is the intention of the Government to embody the subject in a general measure of defence, for the whole of the British North American Provinces, with a view to their proposed Union, when I hope Halifax, the chief Port of the Maritime Dependencies of the same, will enjoy a similar privilege to that now sought for Quebec.

You have doubtless observed through the medium of the public prints that Her Majesty's Colonial Secretary has since introduced a bill of a still more comprehensive character, which cannot but be duly appreciated by the whole of the British Colonial Empire.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WM. REES.

To Vice-Admiral Sir JAS. HOPE, K.C.B.

Quebec, March, 1865.

ON COLONIAL NAVIES, TRAINING SHIPS, NAVAL RESERVE, ETC., REFERRED TO AS A GENERAL MEASURE, IN THE IMPERIAL HOUSE OF COMMONS; BY THE RIGHT HON.

EDWARD CARDWELL, HER MAJESTY'S SECRETARY FOR THE COLONIES. SUCH SHIPS TO ENJOY THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF SHIPS OF THE ROYAL NAVY.

(From the *Quebec Chronicle*, March, 1865.)

"It is, we believe, not generally known that a suggestion was made, some short time since, through Admiral Hope, that the Imperial authorities should place at the disposal of the Canadian Government a ship of war to be stationed at Quebec for the teaching and training of boys for a nautical life—a school for sailors, where the youth of the country, who desired to follow a sea-faring life, could learn thoroughly the duties and practice of seamanship. The Home Government, it is understood, was pleased with the idea, and promised that a ship should be placed at the service of the Province whenever we were prepared to carry the project into practical operation. The last mail brings us the intelligence that on the second instant Mr. Cardwell moved in the House of Commons for leave to bring in a bill to enable the Colonies to make better provision for their own maritime defence. The main object of the bill he explained to be to extend the principle on which the Royal naval reserve was organized to all the maritime colonies of the empire, and to enable these colonies to train, under the same conditions as the Royal naval reserve, all their sea-faring population. There is another purpose of this Act. The colony of Victoria desired to have, and in fact had at present, a ship of war. At present, however, that vessel was not entitled to the privileges of a ship of war, as it was not under the control of the Imperial Government. This bill would enable a colony in time of peace or war to place a ship or ships under the control of the Lords of the Admiralty, and thereby to acquire for such ship or ships the rights and privileges of a public ship. The bill would also enable the maritime inhabitants of several colonies, or even of the whole of the English colonies and dependencies, to be united into one body for the defence of the British empire, or of any of the colonies. He also said that the bill contemplated nothing being done except at the expense of the colonies. The bill was then brought in and read a first time. This would certainly be a great step in the right direction; and we sincerely hope that this matter may likewise be one of those items of arrangement which the conference

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on the defence of the Provinces will include. There are hundreds, if not thousands, of our young men who would join the service if opportunity of this kind were offered."

LETTER FROM CAPTAIN LYTTLETON.

MY DEAR SIR,—I received your letter of the 8th instant, and have since then had an interview with Admiral Hope. He mentioned having seen you, and said he had written to the Admiralty about a Hulk for Quebec, but had not yet received an answer; when he does he will communicate the result to you. I have also talked the matter over with the Mayor, who seems to be much pleased with the idea of having a Training Ship here for Boys, and will do all in his power to assist in carrying out the scheme. The streets, wharves and lanes of our city swarm with a vagrant juvenile population of both sexes, who are becoming adepts in crime, and will ultimately find their way into our jails and penitentiaries. We, who are alive to this growing evil, cannot repudiate our responsibilities, and must make an effort to reclaim this hitherto sadly neglected class. The Admiral is of opinion, if a Hulk should be given to Quebec, there will be no difficulty in obtaining a similar grant to this place.

For a long time my sympathies have been enlisted in behalf of our poor destitute boys, and I shall feel greatly obliged for any information or assistance you can give me in devising a plan for the amelioration of their condition. In the meantime I shall write to England and the States for particulars as to expense—system of management, &c.,—of their Training Ships.

Believe me,

My dear Sir,

Very truly yours,

[Signed] WESTCOTE LYTTLETON.

HALIFAX, N. S.,  
Nov. 26th, 1864.  
DR. REES, &c., &c., Quebec.

LETTER FROM HON. W. CAYLEY.

TORONTO, 15th July, 1864.

MY DEAR DR. REES,—I return the enclosed as requested. Your suggestions on "Provincial corps and training ships for the employment and discipline of 'vagrant youth,'" involve, as Sir Etienne Taché truly observes, vast and important changes in the internal policy of the Province. At same time I may remark, that no subject of graver importance, or more deeply affecting the social and moral condition of a country, ever claimed the attention of a Government. It is no matter of surprise to me to see that your active mind is still busy on subjects so congenial to your tastes, and for which your long experience in your profession, and the peculiar turn of your mind, so eminently qualify you. I have not lost sight of the fact that the first Orphan Home established in this city owes its existence to your untiring exertions; that the grant of land for its site from the late Mr. Robert Baldwin was due to your advocacy; and you must be glad and proud to know that many useful and creditable young people, now following their various vocations in the Province, owe all their education, their early shelter, food and clothing, to that Institution. Going back to an earlier period, when I first had the pleasure of making your acquaintance, you were the first, if I am not mistaken, to advocate in this city, and, when put in charge, to adopt the "humane system" of treatment of lunatics to which so many owe their restoration to reason and the social relations of life. I sincerely hope, my dear Doctor, that your services and usefulness may again be put in requisition, whether in connection with any scheme which may be adopted or founded on your "training system," or more directly in the line of your profession as Staff Surgeon to the Militia, your long and active services in which must give you strong claims, and to which you have the assurance of Sir Etienne Taché that his attention will be given.

Believe me,

My dear Dr. Rees,

Yours very sincerely,

W. CAYLEY.

*(Continued from page 4 of cover.)*

Under this, which we fearlessly proclaim to be the most practical government in the world, it behoves us to entertain and support practical views; and at this moment, when the elements of political as well as of commercial disorder are actively at work, it is proper we should state in plainer terms than those we might have adopted in ordinary times, the extent of our estimation of what in England is fondly, but not blindly, called the Sacred Person of the Sovereign, as well as of the sacred rights and liberties of which the people of England have made their monarch the trustee, not for her own grandeur, power or aggrandizement, but for the general good. Yes, it is proper that at a time when the giant form of anarchy is stalking in neighbouring and other countries, breathing pestilence, famine and blood, throughout the human family, it is indeed necessary that we should individually and boldly declare ourselves more than ever to be firm supporters of the Crown, as the only guarantee which the experience of ages has pointed out for national liberty, and, by consequence, the national happiness, power and glory of the people!

To maintain that beautiful system of checks provided by the constitution, which, nicely poised, realizes that grand theory which Tacitus thought too perfect ever to have any real existence among men—an union and incorporation of the monarchical, aristocratical and democratical principles of government, into one system, acting as mutual checks on each other, and preventing thereby either order or abuse.

Considering, as we do, the various Colonial dependencies of Great Britain, as so many radii from one common centre, we naturally wish them to be consolidated in the same strength, resplendent with the same glory, and the ties by which their interests are so closely and intimately connected, to be indissoluble. To secure the permanency of this great Empire, the most distant of her Provinces should be governed on the same general principles with the Parent State; which is to be viewed as the main stay and main spring, imparting life to, and invigorating, the whole body politic.

The vast and magnificent country of Canada and the other British American Provinces may be justly deemed, all things considered, the most important appendage of the British Crown, and of the most promising destinies. It will be our special duty to assist in the development of its natural resources; and amongst the numerous subjects that must claim a particular attention, are those connected with IMMIGRATION, COMMERCE and AGRICULTURE, MINES and FISHERIES of the country.

Without attempting or desiring to disparage other Newspapers of the British Colonies of America, we may yet hope to combine their various interests and most important intelligence into one general record.

A Board of Management, to be nominated at a general meeting of the Stockholders, to be held in the City of Toronto as soon as the capital is subscribed, shall be entrusted with the administration of the funds and the nomination of the Editors.

It will be published in this city daily, with a weekly, foreign and provincial edition; and the importance to Advertisers must be obvious from the circumstance of the railway, shipping, commercial and agricultural interests being chiefly attended to, and the great extent of its promised circulation.

The arrangements we are making both in Europe and the United States, as well as in every quarter of the British Provinces of America, are such as we trust will render our New Paper worthy of general patronage, and commend it more especially to the attention of all capitalists interested in the welfare of the British North American possessions.

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TORONTO, 23rd March, 1863.



"THE NOBLEST MOTIVE IS THE PUBLIC GOOD."

PROSPECTUS  
OF A  
POLITICAL, LITERARY AND COMMERCIAL JOURNAL  
ENTITLED  
"The Standard of British America,"

TO BE DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN PROVINCES, AND CONDUCTED ON A PURELY INDEPENDENT BASIS.

The period having arrived when, from the rapid increase of their population, commerce and political importance, the B. N. A. Provinces demand more comprehensive and powerful means of developing and consolidating their several interests, it is proposed to establish this Journal through the means of a Joint Stock Company, with limited liability—capital £50,000, in shares of £5 each, in instalments of one-fourth on subscription, and the other three-fourths by instalments at same rates, on calls at three months' notice. It will be published under the management of an English and a Provincial sub-editor, with a staff of Correspondents in the Chief British North American Provinces and commercial cities of the United States; the object being to supply, as nearly as possible, a paper for this country on the principle of the *London Times*, affording to the European reader the most recent and general, but faithful, exposition of all matters of public interest on this Continent.

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