MINUTES OF COUNTY COUNCIL January Term, 1884

Tuesday January 8th – The Council opened at 11 a.m., in the customary manner. The clerk read papers regarding the election of a Councilor in the place of Wm. F. Cameron (deceased), Sec. 18, announcing the election of Alex Fraser, esq., Rocklyn, by a majority of 15 votes over Donald Gordon, esq., Glengarry. Mr. Fraser, who was present, was duly sworn by the clerk, and took his seat in Council. The roll was then called. The following Councilors were absent, James R. Collie, Thomas McDonald and Robert Dewar. The following councilors were appointed a nominating committee, viz. Hugh S. Fraser, John McDougald, M.P. and David J. Meikle, who retired to the (bante?)-room. The Warden suggested top propriety of the chairman of the several Road Boards being a committee to look over the returns of Supervisors and Surveyors of Highways. Coun. McColl accordingly read a resolution the tenor of which was as follows: "That the chairman of the Road Boards be a committee to examine the reports of Supervisors and Surveyors of Highways". This gave rise to a good deal of discussion, which brought to light the unsatisfactory manner in which many of the returns were made out. Coun. John Rod McDonald (Sec. 6) then spoke of the way of great deal of the Statute Labor is performed. Persons pay their money to the Supervisors, and then work it back at a dollar a day, which is contract to the Bye-Laws, which do not provide that, in several instances which he knew, the payment of money to the supervisor was only an imaginary transaction, said also, that it was impossible at that season of the year to get men, other than those who pay, to do the work. This seemed to be the general opinion of the Council. The motion was seconded by Coun. Rod. McDougall and carried unanimously. The county Treasurer then presented his report, a summary of which was read by the Warden, and laid over for examination.

SUMMARY OF COUNTY TREASURER'S REPORT

Amount received from Collectors for 1883, \$24,376.04. Amount received from collectors from previous years \$3,769.84. From town of Pictou \$2,075. From Town of New Glasgow \$1000 for 1883. The balance of \$1512. 50 has been paid in since Jan. 1st.

The present liabilities of the County went to \$15,304.09 and the assets to \$2,713.06 which when collected, will have a deficit of \$3531.03 against the county.

Coun. Hubert Fraser chairman of the nominating committee read the report as follows: COMMITTEE ON FINANCE – Hugh S. Fraser, Councilor; John McDougall, do; Angus McMillan, do Roderick McDougall, do; Alexander Fraser, do;

COMMITTEE ON ROADS AND BRIDGES – Alex J. McKay, councilor; John R. McDonald, do; Robt. Maxwell, do: John McDougall, do; John D. Fraser,

COMMITTEE ON ASSESSMENT – David Ferguson, Councilor; Thomas McDonald, do; William Smith, do;

COMMITTEE ON LICENSES – John Ferguson, Councilor; John Sutherland, do; Angus Davies, do;

COMMITTEE ON POOR – Dr. Collie, Councilor; John R. McDonald, do Jeffrey McColl, do; TO BE COUNTY AUDITORS – Frederick W. Fraser, Esq. Smith Copeland, do;

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SUPERVISORS RETURNS AND SURVEYORS OF

HIGHWAYS - Donald Fraser, Robert Maxwell, Jeffrey McColl, John D. Fraser,

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC PROPERTY – Donald Fraser, Councilor, James C. McKay, do; Robert Dewar, do; We recommend that the proceedings of the Council be reported that Alex Murray be employed for this purpose and paid \$25 for furnishing the report, to the county newspapers for this term.

Respectfully submitted HUGH S. FRASER JOHN MCDOUGALL DAVID MEIKLE Pictou, Jan'y 8th, 1884

On Monday the report was received and adopted. Council adjourned till 2 p.m.

Afternoon Session

Council met as per adjournment. Minutes of forenoon meeting were approved as read. Councilors James R. Collie and Robert Dewar were present, and answered to their names. The warden afterwards proceeded to apportion the work to the several committees. Read the endorsements on papers going before the Finance Committee, and requested them to look carefully into accounts from Doctors for attending inquests. He did not think it necessary in cases when death was clearly accidental that the jury should call a doctor. Read endorsations On petitions for new roads and bridges & c. also on petitions for confirmations of roads, and the private Statute Labor, which were afterwards handed to the Chairman of the Com. on Roads and Bridges.

The amounts thought necessary at the section meetings to be levied on them severally for the maintenance of the poor, was referred to the Com. on the Poor. The warden read a letter from Mr. Vaux, lessee of the New Glasgow market, giving up the building and stating that he would sell certain fittings which he put therein to whoever might buy or lease it. Read also a letter from the New Glasgow Town Clerk, saying that the Town Council will have nothing to do with the building and a letter from the Messrs. Reid and Smith, stating their willingness to make arrangements with the County Council to lease it. There was also a letter from Mr. Jno. D. Fraser for the same purpose. This correspondence was handed to the Com. on Public Property Coun. McColl thought it advisable that the market be sold as it was in bad taste and would cost a considerable sum to repair it. Coun. Donald Fraser was of the opinion that selling it would be the means of closing it against the county people, to whom it was a benefit, and that if the New Glasgow Market was sold they would have to deal with the Pictou Market in the same way. Coun. Jno. R. McPherson was not in favor of selling the building. Coun. Jno. McDougall thought that the markets should be owned by the Towns, that they could be utilized by them to more advantage then they are at present and that it would not be the interest of the towns to use them in a manner detrimental to the country people. Coun. R. Dewar remarked that the people of the Eastern part of the country would never consent to its sale. Coun. Donald Fraser said that the Town of New Glasgow could turn it to better account than the County Council.

The following resolution was moved by Coun. McColl and seconded by Coun. D. Fraser. "That the Town Councils of Pictou and New Glasgow be requested to meet with the Com. on Public Property to see what arrangements could be made regarding the market buildings in their respective Towns". The warden informed the Council that N.P. Olding Jailer of New Glasgow had sent in his resignation to the Clerk but that it was not accepted. Two nominations are also in. Messrs. F.W. Fraser and Smith Copeland were sworn by the Clerk as County Auditors, and instructed as to their duty by the Warden. Moved by Coun. H.S. Fraser seconded by R. Maxwell that the Council adjourn until 10 o'clock to-morrow.

JANUARY 9th – Council opened at 10 a.m. as per adjournment. Minutes of last meeting were approved as read. Several petitions for new roads came in since yesterday. The Warden read the endorsations, read also endorsations no accounts handed to him by the Clerk, and gave them to the Chairman of the proper committees. The Warden then said that he noticed that there were a great many applications for new roads and was of the opinion that commissions to lay out new roads should only be granted every alternate year and also that this should be at the first sitting at every new Council, so that they could be able to confirm or finish their own work. The Warden brought to the notice of the Council that a large bridge in the vicinity of River John had fallen down last spring. The estimated cost at which it could be rebuilt was from \$4,000 to \$6,000 which was too much for one road Board to undertake. He suggested that it should be built under the Bridge Act of Nova Scotia. As an experiment, in order to ascertain the comparative cost and quality of work with those built by the County. Coun. McColl agreed with the Warden in as far as it was too much for one Road Board, but thought it better to borrow the money for the purpose on the credit of the County, said as a rule Government-built bridges were heavier than what was required for ordinary traffic. Coun. Rod McDougall said that, as this Bridge was a pressing necessity, it should be built under the Bridge Act. Coun. Collie remarked that the bridge was now almost a year down, that they tried to accommodate the public by cleaning the bed of the river from rubbish, so that it could be forded, that the road was one of the most important in the county, and that during the spring and fall it was impossible to cross the river. For the winter traffic they made a road down a steep bank a mile below the ruined bridge, and crossed on the ice over a mill dam. Coun Dewar was not in favor of Government engineers, having a charge of building bridges, as they did not seem to understand the requirements of the country in that respect. Coun. David Ferguson remarked that the Road Grants were not sufficient to keep up the bridges and that road Board. No. 1 it was a considerable amount in debt. Coun. John McDougald, M.P. thought it better he defer any further discussion on the subject, until after the report of Com on Roads and Bridges were made, Coun. John Rod McDonald wished it to be built under the Act as an experiment. Coun. Robt. McDougall moved and Coun. Hugh S. Fraser seconded that the Council adjourn until 2 p.m. to afford the committees to work. Motion carried unanimously.

Afternoon Session

January 9th – Council opened at 2 p.m. minutes of forenoon meeting read and approved. Moved by Coun. John D. Fraser, and seconded by Coun. A.J. McKay, "That no petition be received after noon on Friday the 11th inst. unless by sanction of council." Motion carried.

Mr. Dwyer, for the Commissioners on Harmless Insane Asylum, read the report of the commissioners as follows:

Pictou, 7th Jan, 1884 – The Commissioners appointed by the County Council to select and purchase a suitable site for the erection of an Asylum for the Harmless Insane of the County of Pictou beg to report as follows:

Your commissioners entered into the duties committed to them in August last, spent several days traveling over different ports of the county, met with difficulties in almost every place we visited.

The first place we visited was the Ives property at Fisher's Grant. Perhaps a more suitable and beautiful spot could not be found in the county, but we were here met with an objection we believed we could not get over. That was the absence of a supply of fresh water. Consequently we had to abandon it.

Next place examined was the Ross property at the head of the Big Gut, so called. This place we had to abandon for the same cause, want of water.

Next the Little property, opposite of the East Side of the River. This land we considered too expensive, had a supply of brook water, said to be at some seasons of the year unfit for use. This property was also declined.

Next the Patrick farm at Middle River. We here met the water trouble, no supply, consequently had to give up.

Next the last we visited the Gray property at Hopewell, where we found a property suitable in every respect, easy of access by rail and post road, only a few rods from the railway station. A beautiful situation, as near the center of the county as possible, land in a high state of cultivation, in a fast growing town, medical aid always at hand, well supplied with water the never failing spring on the property, and the out-flow of one of the purest springs in this county running through part of the land. The spring itself being on the adjoining property, in case it should ever be required for the premises being on elevated ground, and easily conveyed into the building by gravitation. We have purchased from Mr. John Munro four acres of land taking in the spring. For this we agree to pay the sum of Two Hundred Dollars. Both parties are under bonds to furnish lawful Deeds. We would prefer that the property had more frontage, but, all things considered, we consider this property the most desirable.

Had not your Commissioners been excluded from the towns of Pictou and New Glasgow, they might have made a suitable selection in either town.

Your Commissioners beg to submit a sketch plan of what in their opinion, would make a suitable building at the least possible cost. After having the cost carefully estimated, they believe the amount would not exceed \$7,000 for the building complete, exclusive of heating, which can be done at different prices, according to the mode of putting up. All of which we respectfully submit.

JOHN MCQUARRIE C. DWYER JOHN FORBES ROBERT MORRISON JOHN C. REID

Coun. McColl rose to make some explanations regarding the Report. He said that by a resolution of the Council, passed in the May term, the Town limits of Pictou and New Glasgow were excluded from the places in which the Commissioners could choose a site, that the Gray farm was not actually purchased, but that the proprietor had given bonds binding him to sell the farm if required for the purpose intended, if not a forfeit of fifty dollars paid him.

Coun. Maxwell wished to submit the plans to the Council.

Coun. McColl thought it better to leave the plans in the ante-room for the inspection of Councilors. Coun. John McDougall favored referring the report and plans to the Council's Committee on Insane Asylums to report on them. Coun. Donald Fraser was of the opinion that

good water could be found in any part of the County by digging wells, objected to the narrowness of the farm.

Mr. Dwyer, on behalf of the commissioners, said that full power was given them to purchase a site, and further that they had power to erect buildings and furnish them, that they were in honor bound to buy the Grey farm, as Mr. Grey thought it purchased, and intended investing his money otherwise. He was not personally in favor of having a farm in connection with the Asylum, as he thought the inmates would be unfit to work, and that produce could be bought cheaper, then it could be raised by them.

Coun. Rod McDougall did not think that the Council would cast any reflection on the work of the commissioners. He also wished the report and plans to be referred to the Council's committee and that they report on Friday evening. The Warden thought that if the towns of Pictou and New Glasgow were included in the places where a site might be chosen, the report might be different.

Coun. McColl said that it was a wise provision that they were not included as land could not be bought within their limits, without having to pay any exorbitant price for it. He drew attention to the success of the farm in connection with the Poor-House in Yarmouth, which is almost self supporting. Coun. A.J. McKay remarked that the report should be adopted, that the council was under a debt of gratitude to the commissioners for the pains they had taken in selecting a site, and that he land was no more than what was required.

Coun. John McDougall, M.P. moved and Coun Robert Maxwell seconded that the report and plans be referred to the Council's committee on Insane Asylum, to report on them. The motion was carried. The Nominating Committee were instructed by the Warden to nominate a committee on Insane Asylum. They recommended the following Councilors: Jeffrey McColl, Dr. Collie, Robert Maxwell, William Smith, and unanimously it was then moved and passed that the Council stand adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Moved by Coun. J. McCoull, and seconded by Coun. John D. Fraser "that the commissioners' report be received." Motion carried.

PICTOU JAN 10

Council opened at 10 a.m. Roll called all the Councilors were present and answered to their names.

Minutes of last meeting were approved as read.

The Warden read a letter from the Town Clerk of New Glasgow, asking what time the County Council would be prepared to meet with the Town Council of New Glasgow, for the purpose of levying the county rates to be paid by the said town. The letter was given to the chairman of the Nominating Committee to report on, so that the Town Councils of Pictou and New Glasgow could be notified of the day of the meeting. The Warden suggested that it would be a convenient time for the Town Council of New Glasgow to meet with the Council's Committee on Public Property anent the New Glasgow Market. He also threw out the idea to Councilors not actively engaged in committee work to formulate something definite as to the two subjects about which there was a good deal of discussion yesterday, viz. the building of the River John Bridge under the Bridge Act, and as to remedying the defects in the law under which cattle are impounded. The majority of the Councilors being busily engaged in committee work there was no further business before the Council, which adjourned by motion till 2 p.m.

Afternoon Session

Council opened at 2 p.m. The minutes of last meeting were read by the Clerk, and approved as read.

The chairman of the Nominating Committee read their report as follows:

"Your committee on Nominations beg to recommend that Jeffrey McColl, John McDougald, Rod McDougald, Donald Fraser, and Hugh S. Fraser be a committee of this Council to meet with the Town Council of Pictou and New Glasgow to adjust the proportion of rates to be borne by said towns for 1884; that said Town Council be notified to meet with said Committee at the Court House, Pictou, on Tuesday the 15th inst. at 10 o'clock, a.m. and that said Councils be also invited to meet with the committee on Public Property on the same day, to consider arrangements with reference to the market buildings in Pictou and New Glasgow, Respectfully submitted,

> HUGH S. FRASER JOHN MCDOUGALD D.J. MEIKLE

Committee on Nominations

It was moved by Coun. Maxwell and seconded by Coun. David Ferguson, that the Report be received and adopted. Carried unanimously.

The afternoon was taken up with Committee work. Coun. adjourned at 4 o'clock till 10 o'clock tomorrow.

FRIDAY, Jan. 11 – Council opened at 10 a.m. The roll was called by the clerk. All the Councilors were present with the exception of Coun. McColl, who reported himself shortly afterwards. Minutes of yesterday afternoon read and adopted.

The Warden read a numerously signed petition from the inhabitants of River John and vicinity, showing the importance of the now ruined Welsford Bridge to the people of that thickly-settled district – and the necessity of rebuilding it as soon as possible, and also requesting the Council to grant them a sum of money for the purpose. The Warden thought, as he previously stated, that the most feasible way of doing so was to put it under the Bridge Act of 1883, the Council not being able to grant them money. Coun. McColl was of the opinion that money could be borrowed as cheaply from private individuals as from the Government and that it would be better for the Council to have that done. Coun. Donald Fraser thought, as the Railway bride was to be built close by the site of the old bridge, the majority of the road Board were in favor of deferring the building of it until the matter was decided, the arrangements made with the Railway Company so that both bridges could be built on the same or on parallel pillars. The want of a competent engineer was the greatest difficulty, Coun. Collie did not think that the money could be borrowed so advantageously as from the government. The sinking fund provided by the Act causes the debt to lapse after a number of years, whereas in any other case the principle would have to be paid in a lump sum. The want of a competent person to undertake the work was a difficulty. Coun. John Sutherland was also in favor of building it under the Bridge Act, said that the Baillie Bridge would require all the resources of the Road Board for this year. Coun. Collie informed Coun. Donald Fraser that subsequent to a meeting held by that road Board the Warden being present, the Railway engineer changed the proposed site of the Railway bridge to a greater distance from the Welsford bridge, which did away with the necessity of having the pillars of both bridges parallel. Coun. John McDougald M.P. thought it imprudent to borrow money for that purpose on the credit of the county. His idea was to put two or three

bridges under the Act and under the supervision of some competent county authority. Coun. David Ferguson spoke of two bridges built last year under the bridge Act. one at the Acadian Iron Mines, the other at New Annan. On the former there was no Inspector there was an Inspector on the latter paid by the contractor. Coun. McColl remarked that the services of the government engineer could be had to prepare plans and specifications. Coun. Alex Fraser brought to the notice of the Council that a bridge in his section will have to be built first summer, and knew of no way to get it done except by putting it under the Bridge Act. The keeping up of the bridges in his section which is long and narrow has taken all the Road grants for a number of years, leaving the roads in a very bad state, that \$100 spent on leveling a road leading from Concord to Glengarry was all the money spent on their roads for a considerable time.

A resolution anent the Welsford Bridge, River John was moved by Coun. Collie and Seconded by Coun. John Sutherland. Coun. Collie read the resolution.

As the councilors concurred in the opinion that the matter was one requiring serious consideration, it was moved by Coun. Rod McDougald, seconded by Coun. A.J. McKay and carried unanimously; "That further discussion on it be put off till Monday afternoon."

As order was read by the Warden as follows – "We recommend that the following order be passed.

Ordered, that the Overseers of Poor for Polling District No. 24 pay to the Clerk and Treasurer for the Poor of Polling District No. 21 the sum of \$62 for the support of old paupers, said sum to be paid to said clerk and Treasurer on or before the first day of November, AD 1884.

Dated at Court House, Pictou, this 12th day of January, A.D. 1884.

John D. Fraser

D.J. Meikle

The order was handed to the Chairman of the Committee on Poor. The Council adjourned by motion till 2 p.m.

Afternoon Session

Minutes of forenoon meeting were adopted as read.

After which the Warden read a petition from John Park of Sutherlands River, regarding road damages, which after some discussion he handed to the Chairman of the Committee on Finances.

Read also a letter from the sheriff, asking Council to define and confirm the jail limits. The letter was by motion referred to the committee on Public Property.

Coun John Ferguson asked for the information who were owners of the ferry wharves. They being out of repair it was necessary to know the parties who should look after them. Coun. Donald Fraser was of the opinion that the Harbour Commissioners were the parties who had charge of them. It was proposed that the Committee on Public Property hold consultation with the Mayor of the Town and the Harbour Commissioners in regard to the matter. Coun. John Ferguson being the Councilor more directly interested in the wharves was to gather information as to the ownership of them.

After some desultory discussion as to whose servants the jailors of the county were, the Councilors went to the committee work.

At 4 o'clock the Council adjourned until 10 a.m. to-morrow.

SATURDAY, JAN. 12 – Council opened at 10 a.m. pursuant to adjournment. Roll called. All the Councilors were present. Minutes of yesterday afternoon meeting read and sustained.

The Warden urged the propriety of placing a sum in the Estimates towards helping the Town of Pictou to liquidate the debt on the Academy. It was generally conceded; he said that the Academy was an immense boon to all the County, which shared greatly in its benefits, the country schools being improved through the training given to teachers in the Institution. It was only just that the Council should recognize the commendable enterprise of the Town in this respect. Coun. John McDonald, Hopewell, was very willing that a small sum should be placed in the Estimates for the purpose. Coun. McColl, while acknowledging the benefits accruing to the County from the Academy, thought it better to pay the whole or part of one of the Professor's salary, having in view the Professor of Chemistry as the country people would be more interested in Agricultural Chemistry than in the other branches. Coun. John Ferguson thought it only right that something should be done for the Academy as it afforded cheaper education than if the youth of the County would have to go to Halifax or any other such place. Coun. Dewar asked the Council to take into consideration the people who would have to bear the increased taxation; he thought that the county schools should be put in better condition, rather than give money towards the Academy. Coun. John McDougald, M.P. remarked that the matter should be referred to the Committee to apportion the rates between the Towns and County for their favorable consideration which was accordingly done.

The Warden read a petition from David Logan, asking that he and John Logan, Three-Mile House, should be relieved from their bond, binding them to support Mr. Geo. Logan a patient in the Insane Asylum, Halifax. Moved and seconded, that the petition be referred to the Committee on Poor. Motion carried.

Coun. Angus McMillan wished to be heard in reference to a petition from some inhabitants of Trenton, part of which was in previously. In was moved and carried, that it be received, as a special matter.

Councilors Donald Fraser, Angus Davis, and Wm. Smith, each wished a petition for private Statute Labor to be received, which was done by motion.

Coun. John Ferguson informed the Council that he saw one of the Harbour Commissioners regarding the ferry wharves, who said that they (the Commissioners) could do nothing with them. Coun. Ferguson thought that the wharves should be regarded as parts of the roads, and dealt with in the same way.

Then, followed some discussion anent the mistake in the Assessment List of Sect. 19, of which nothing came.

Coun. McColl, Chairman of the Committee on Insane Asylum read their report as follows:

"Pictou, 12th January, 1884 – The Committee on Farm and Buildings for the harmless insane, to whom was submitted the Report of the Commissioners appointed by the County Council and the Town Councils of Pictou and New Glasgow, beg leave to report – That they have examined the Report and the various offers of farms and the building plans submitted by the Commissioners and have annexed a memorandum of the farms and their prices. The plans submitted by Mr. McQuarrie would at least accommodate eighty persons and the estimated cost of the buildings with furniture and heating apparatus complete is \$9,000. The plans submitted by Mr. Dwyer give more accommodation and would cost probably \$1500 additional. Objections have been raised to the farm recommended by the Commissioners on account of its shape being about one mile in length, and only five hundred in front and three hundred and twenty-five feet in the rear in. We recommend that no expense be incurred for the buildings for the County Asylum. We also recommend that application be made to the Local Legislature, at its first session, for authority to borrow for this purpose on the credit of the Municipality, a sum not exceeding ten thousand dollars, at a rate of interest not to exceed six per cent, per annum. The principle to be repaid in yearly installments for principle and interest. We further recommend that the Council at its present session either adopt the Report of the Commissioners or select some of the other sites submitted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Jeffrey McColl John McDougald William Smith J.R. Collie Robert Maxwell

List of Properties offered – Gray property, Hopewell, with additions, \$1,500, Horn property at Middle River, with buildings, \$1,700; Little property opposite Stellarton, \$1,800; Ross property at big Gut – 35 acres for \$2,400 20 acres for \$2,000; D.M. Fraser property at Fraser's Mountain, \$1,460; Kerr property on Fraser's Mountain – 20 acres with buildings, \$700, 27 acres without buildings, \$700 – separately or together, A. Anderson property at Fraser's Mountain, \$800.

The Committee thought it prudent to leave it with the Council to decide as to the location, as there were so many objections to the narrowness of the farm. It was moved by Coun. Hugh S. Fraser, and seconded by John R. McDonald that the report be received, carried unanimously. Coun Rod McDougall said that if the report be carried out, it will involve the county in a large expenditure, that it should receive the careful consideration of the Council. He found no fault with the work of the commissioners, but if the property they recommend be not bought they should not be disappointed, thought that several properties could be had more convenient than the Gray farm, objected greatly to its narrowness. The Warden said that it was most important matter that ever came before the Council. His own ideas which be sought to impress upon the Council were; that the institution should be on a small scale, and near a town where resident Commissioners could be had. Coun. Donald Fraser thought that as the towns were excluded it should be located between Pictou and New Glasgow. That there was an urgent necessity of doing something towards the object. Coun, John McDonald, Hopewell, remarked that there was several farms in the county as narrow as the Grey farms and that it was very conveniently situated. Coun. John Ferguson objected to the narrowness of the Grey farm and shoed that the rear could not be profitably worked. Coun. John Rod McDonald was of the opinion that the institution could be run near a town more cheaply then in the country.

Coun. A.J. McKay thought it strange if a farm more symmetrical than the Gray property could not be bought, especially when so many farms were for sale in the county, he would recommend the Horn property at Middle River. Coun. David Ferguson said that it was better to correct any mistakes, that might have been made, then to find fault after they could not be remedied, as was often the case, he was in favor of the Horn property. Coun. John D. Fraser in a somewhat lengthy speech, spoke of the difference of opinion as to whether a farm were necessary or not in connection with the Institution; he wished the matter to be deferred to the May term. Coun. Robert Maxwell said that it was preposterous to call the Gray property a farm; Coun. Dewar remarked that he was unable to decide how to vote owing to the contradictory remarks of Councilors. Coun. Hugh S. Fraser explained that there were 15 acres of intervale on the Horn property, and Coun. Maxwell that it has grown annually about 20 tons of hay. Mr. Dwyer one of the commissioners, being granted liberty to speak, said that all the knowledge they had of the Horn property was given in their report; that unless the Council rescinded some of

their own work the recommendation of the commissioners could not be altered, without sending their report, back to be amended. Coun. John McDougald, M.P. was strongly of the opinion that action should be taken on the matter at once, if not that it would require to be put off for a considerable time. Coun. McColl's motion to take up the report of the committee clause by clause was seconded and carried, 1st clause passed, 2nd clause passed unanimously. Coun. John D. Fraser moved and Coun. David Meikle seconded the following amendment to the 3rd clause of the report, "*Therefore Resolved*" that the third clause of the Committee's report be deferred to use due diligence to select a site subject to the approval of said meeting of Council." Those in favor of the amendment were Councilors John D. Fraser, H.S. Fraser, and Alex Fraser, against amendment, 18 Councilors. Moved by Coun. McColl and seconded by Coun. Smith that the report be adopted as a whole. Motion carried.

At 1 p.m. the Council adjourned by motion unanimously carried until 2 p.m. on Monday.

JANUARY, 14th – Council opened at 2 p.m. pursuant to adjournment, all the councilors were present.

Minutes of Saturday's meeting were adopted as read. Coun. J.R. McPherson wanted to know if a petition which was sent to him but which through an irregularity, he did not get it at the proper time would be received. Coun. Thomas McDonald moved and Coun. Rod McDougall seconded that the petition was handed to the Chairman of the Committee on Roads and Bridges.

The Warden read the resolution anent the Welsford Bridge as follows:

Whereas, the Welsford Bridge (so-called) about two miles above River John village as carried away by the freshet last spring.

And whereas, the loss of said bridge has, and is causing an inconvenience to the traveling public and serious loss to the surrounding district, obstructing business, preventing access to mills, market, church, & c. *And whereas* an effort was made last summer to make some arrangements whereby said bridge might be built, but all effort failed and the locality will be subjected to the loss of the said bridge for some time to come as the bridge is a large one and will take the most of next summer to rebuild it, and it is therefore necessary that an early attempt should be made to have the bridge rebuilt.

And whereas, Road Board district No. 1 in whose jurisdiction the said bride is situated is quite unable unaided to rebuild said bridge.

Therefore resolved that the Governor in Council be requested to place Welsford Bridge near River John in Pictou Co. under the provisions of the "Bridge Bill" of 1883 to be rebuilt.

The plans to be subject to the approval of Warden.

Signed J.B COLLIE

JOHN SUTHERLAND

Moved by Coun. McColl, seconded by J. Rod McDonald that the resolution be passed. There was considerable discussion on the matter, much of it being a repetition of what was said on Friday.

Coun. J.R. Collies remarked that steps should be taken at an early date to rebuild it and it was a pressing necessity. Coun. R. Dewar did not think that the clause subjecting the plans to the Warden's approval was of any use. Coun. J.R. McDonald asked if the Council intended to apply the act generally to the large bridges in the County or to confine it to the Welsford Bridge.

Coun. John D. Fraser was of the opinion that if the last clause was left in the resolution it could not really be put under the Act. Coun. John Ferguson would like to keep the last clause in the resolution but would have expunged sooner than have the Government ignore the resolution

on that account. Coun. David Ferguson wished the bridge could be built under the Act. Coun. A.J. McKay was in favor of taking full advantage of the Act so that the whole county could reap the benefit. Coun. J.R. McPherson remarked that it would be necessary to adopt the Act sooner or later, the sooner the better that the roads were in a bad state the money being entirely spent on bridges.

Coun. John Sutherland strongly urged the necessity of building the Bridge soon, said no other way that to put it under the Bridge Act. Several Councilors expressed the same opinion. Resolution was adopted unanimously.

The Warden read a Memorial from the New Glasgow Agricultural Society asking for a grant of money towards an exhibition proposed to be held in that town during the year.

The following members of the Society were present. Messrs McGregor, Bell, Townsend and McKay. Mr. McGregor referred to what their society and the town of New Glasgow had done towards having a district exhibitions to farmers that although not a farmer, he had a great interest in their welfare, that if the Council would grant them a good sum, it would be the means of bringing more out of the pockets of the New Glasgow people. They had also in view the erection of buildings suitable for a Provincial exhibition which he thought would be held in the near future.

Mr. Bell was the next speaker. He spoke at some length of the importance of agriculture, showed how in the past Halifax, Truro and Kentville monopolized the Provincial Exhibition and that it was a slur on the intelligence of Pictou County that no Provincial Exhibition was ever held in it. He wished the Council to grant \$2000 or \$2500 to supplement what has been granted by the Town of New Glasgow and the Agricultural Society of that place towards the object in view. Coun. Donald Fraser remarked that an effort has been made by the Pictou Agricultural Society to have an Exhibition in Pictou. They already had grounds and buildings suitable for the purpose, and would do what they could for that end. Coun. John Rod McDonald thought that the farmers in the council should express their opinions on the subjects. Councilors Rod McDougall, Angus McMillan, and John Ferguson were of the opinion that considering the amount of taxes levied and to be levied on the County for necessary purposes, the amount asked for was excessive but were in favor of granting a judicious sum.

Moved by Coun. John D. Fraser and seconded that the matter be referred to the Finance Com. for their favorable consideration. Motion carried.

At 4 p.m., the council adjourned by motion till 10 o'clock tomorrow

JANUARY 15th – Council opened at 10 a.m. pursuant to adjournment. All the Councilors were present.

Minutes of last meeting were read and adopted. The Clerk brought to the notice of the Council that an increased rate was asked by the Insurance Companies to insure the Public Buildings. Hitherto the rate charged was ½ %. Now the English companies ask 1%. Mr. John Ross representing a Canadian Co. offered to insure them at the rate of 2% for three years. The Warden suggested that the matter be referred to the Finance Committee, and also that the amounts insured for be reduced. Moved by Coun. J. Rod McDonald and seconded by Coun. J.C. McKay that such be done. Motion carried. Coun. J. McKay remarked that several good precepts which were issued were never returned, and as one of the Committee on Roads and Bridges, he would like to know how to dispose of the matter whether by granting an order to reappoint the same Committee for further consideration.

The Town Councils of Pictou and New Glasgow being in waiting and other important Committee work to be done. It was moved by Coun. McColl seconded by Coun. Dewar that the Council adjourn till 2 p.m. Motion carried.

Morning Session

Council opened at 2 p.m.

Minutes of forenoon meeting read and sustained.

The Warden read the Report of the Committee on Statute Labor Returns.

Your committee to whom was referred the Statute Labor Returns beg leave to report.

That they have gone over all the returns in, and find that the following are wanting viz.

In Section 5, No. 119

- "" " 6, No. 143, 146,157, 161
- " " 7, No. 169, 186, 191
- " " 9, No. 219, 221, 222
- " " 10, No, 295
- " " 11, No. 292, 195, 302, 206, 307
- """ 13, No. 325, 328
- """ 16, No. 391, 405
- """ 17, No. 430
- " "18, No. 434, 435, 440, 448, 449, 450, 459, 464, 465
- " " 20, No. 484, 488, 496, 498
- " " 22, No. 542
- " " 24, No. 570, 571

We would recommend that the Surveyors of Highways of these Sections have until hat meeting of the Council in May, to hand in their returns and those not then having complied with the law be proceeded against as the law directs.

Your Committee cannot help remarking that these returns are not filled up as carefully as they might be done, and think that the blame lays on the Councilors, as they took a little trouble in seeing these returns were probably filled up much less time of the Council and Committee would be taken up.

Your Committee would recommend that the Councilors would be the parties to distribute the Statute Labor instructions and that the returns should be collected by them and forwarded to the Clerk so that they would be handed to the Committee of the Council in some shape so that at a glance they could be passed, instead of as a present having to go over the whole items. Your committee would like to give a statement of the number of days in Statute Labor there were in the County, and also the number of days worked but to add up all the Returns would take more time than your Committee had to spare.

Your Committee would further remark that they cannot understand how so little commutation money is paid in, and fear that their returns are too loosely filled up and money paid is not accounted for as the returns provide. This would be to a great extent avoided if the Councilors attended to the Returns.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

Committee JEFFREY MCCOLL ROBERT MAXWELL DONALD FRASER

Moved by Coun. John D. Fraser, and seconded by Coun. A.J. McKay, that the report be received, Councilors W. Smith and John Ferguson wished to be exempted from the clause

binding Councilors to distribute Statute Labor instructions as their sections were so situated as to make it difficult, for them to do so. Coun Dewar thought that the Councilors were the proper persons to do that work. Coun. Rod McDonald always distributed the instructions to the Supervisors in his section. Coun Rod McDonald was in favor of the Councilors being responsible for the proper distribution of the instructions, Coun. J.R. McPherson did not think that the supervisors were under the necessity of giving the returns to the Coun if they could be more easily sent by mail. Coun. McColl said that the returns were not filled up properly, as they did not show as a rule the correct number of days worked, but the number of days of 8 hours, each at 50 cents per day. Moved and carried that the report be received and adopted.

The Warden afterwards read the report of the committee appointed apportions the rates between the Towns and the County as follows:

To the Municipal Council of Pictou January term 1884,

At a joint meeting of Committee of County Council of Pictou County, and the Town Council of New Glasgow, for the purpose of settling their share of the expense of the year 1884.

It was agreed that the town of New Glasgow should pay the sum of two thousand five hundred and three dollars and fifty cents, the same being inclusive of the proportion of Eastern Extension Railway Damages, payable to the said Town for the current year.

Jeffery McColl

Chairman Committee of County Council

D.C. Fraser

Warden Town of New Glasgow

To the Municipal Council of Pictou January 1884.

At a joint meeting of committee of County Council of Pictou County, and the Town Council of Pictou for the purpose of settling their share of expenses of the County for the current year, 1884.

It was agreed that the town of Pictou should pay the sum of two thousand nine hundred and sixty dollars and forty cents, the sum being inclusive of their proportions for Eastern Extension Railway damages, payable by the said Town for the current year.

Chairman of Committee of County Council.	
J.D. McLeod	
Mayor Town of Pictou	
Memo	
Assessment for 1883,	\$26,335.00
Less off	
For Clerk	\$300.00
"Treasurer	\$250.00
"Auditors	\$40.00
"Assessors	\$500.00
" Collectors	
"Warden & Councilors	\$700.00
" Printing	\$250.00
"Road Damages	\$500.00
"Contingencies\$200).00\$ <u>3490.00</u>
-	\$22845.00

Pictou pays 10% of the above \$2,284.50

Proportion of Railway damages for 1884, whole amount \$4759.00 at 10% -	475.90
	\$2960.40
N. Glasgow pays 8% of above proportion of Railway damages	\$1827.60
For 1884m whole amount \$4759.00 at 10%	\$ <u>475.90</u>

.....\$2503.50

Coun. McColl stated the reason that Pictou only pays 10 per cent of the County Rates instead of 12 per cent last year. He said that was the way they intended showing their appreciation of what Pictou has done towards educational facilities having to view the wish of the Council regarding the Academy.

The first part of the report was received and adopted by motion.

Coun. Collie was in favor of assisting the Academy in the manner first proposed.

Moved by Coun. McColl, seconded and carried that the latter part of the report be received and adopted.

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee read the following recommendations:

"Resolved, that John D. McDonald be Treasurer for the following year, his sureties to be for \$10,000" Received and adopted by motion.

The Warden read the Report of the Committee on Poor, as follows:

"To the Warden and Municipal Councilors, January Term 1884. We your Committee on Poor beg leave to report that owing to a resolution passed at our last meeting by which overseers of Poor are required to make their returns at the May meeting instead of the January meeting as formally. It is necessary however that the sums required for the support of the Poor in the several sections be authorized at this meeting.

We would therefore ask you to agree to the following sums for the support of the Poor for the ensuing year.

clisuing year.			
Polling	Sec.	1	\$120
"	"	2	\$50
"	"	3	\$350
"	"	4	\$650
"	"	5	\$300
"	"	6	\$300
"	"	7	\$400
"	"	8	\$250
"	"	9	\$440
"	"	10	\$540
"	"	11	\$50
"	"	12	
"	"	13	\$300
"	"	F.Mt	\$100
"	"	14	\$150
"	"	15	\$100
"	٠٠	16	\$50
"	٠٠	17	200
"	"	18	175
"	"	19	75
"	"	20	200
"	"	21	225

"	"	22	130
"	"	23	800
"	"	24	<u>100</u>
Total			\$6055

We would ask you to pass the following resolution in reference to the support of the Poor between Polling Section 21 and 24.

Resolved that the Overseers of Poor for Polling sec. 24 pay to the Clerk and Treasurer of Polling sec No. 21 the sum of sixty-two dollars for the support of old paupers, said sum to be paid to said Clerk and Treasurer on or before the first day of November 1884.

Committee {Jas. R. Collie

{John R. McDonald {Jeffrey McColl

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

In reference to the petition of David Logan asking that he and Mr. John Logan tanner be relieved from their Bonds for the maintenance of George Logan, not a lunatic in the Provincial Hospital for Insane. We recommend that the prayer of the petition be granted.

Jas. R. Collie John R. McDonald Jeffrey McColl

Moved by Coun. J.C. McKay and seconded by Coun. John McDonald that the Report be adopted. Motion carried.

Coun. McColl wished the Council to receive a petition from the ratepayers of Trenton regarding a road. Petition received by motion and handed to the Committee under Roads and Bridges.

The Report of the Committee on Roads and Bridges was received and partially confirmed ad adopted. The remainder to be taken up to-morrow.

The Treasurer presented his bonds and the names of his sureties, viz: Hon. R.P. Grant, Messrs. William McLaren and I.A. Grant.

Council adjourned till 10 o'clock tomorrow

PICTOU, Jan 16

The Warden read the following Special Report of the Committee on Public Property To His Honor the Warden and Councilors:

"We the undersigned Councilors, to whom was referred the memorial of the Sheriff of the County of Pictou, requesting the Council to fix the limits of the Goal yard in the said County, beg leave to recommend that the extent and limits of the said Goal yard be as follows, that is to say:

"The same to be bounded on the south by the waters of the harbor of Pictou; on the west by the west side of the road running from 'Blink Bonnie to the road in the read of town of Pictou, said Western limit to run south from the said first-mentioned at 'Blink Bonnie' in a straight line with the west side of said road to the waters of the Harbor aforesaid. On the North by the North side of said in rear of the town in an easterly direction to the east side of the road running from Adam Kerr's (known as the Adam Gordon) to the waters of the harbor and on the "east by the said east side of said Adam Gordon road to the waters of the harbor at or near Sea View Cemetery.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

Donald Fraser Jas. C. McKay Robert Dewar"

Moved and seconded that the above limits be confirmed. Motion carried unanimously. The chairman of the committee on Assessment read their report as follows: Mr. Warden:

"We, your committee on Assessment after due deliberation on the several matters brought before us, beg leave to submit the following report for your consideration, viz:

1st. We recommend that the following amounts be struck off the several Assessment Rolls for the year 1882 and 1883 – Polling Section No 1. (Pictou Island). 1883, 30c, (Fisher's Grant), 1883, 60c; 2, 1883, \$25.25; 3. 1882, \$25.83; 4, 1883 \$9.18; 5, 1883, \$13.62; 6. 1883, \$7.45; 7. 1882, \$4.52; 7, 1883, \$4.09; 8. 1883, \$1.93; 9. 1881, \$13.94; 9, 1883,\$16.52; 10. 1883, \$2.63; 11. 1883, \$4.02; 12, 1883, \$16.67; 13. 1883, \$8.89; 14. 1882, \$3.45; 14, 1883, \$9.97; 15. 1883, \$51.25; 16, 1883, \$13.26; 17. 1883, \$27.89; 18. 1883, \$3.27; 19. 1883, \$19.64; 20. 1883, \$25.15; 21. 1883, \$5.20; 22. 1883, \$6.15; 23. 1883 \$31.27; 24. 1882, \$4.02; 1883, \$5.40, total, \$361.36.

Your committee find that out of the above amount the sum of \$30.28 is taxed on nonresidents distributed over the several districts as follows – Polling districts No. 3, \$6.61; 4. \$4.28; 5. \$1.99; 7, \$1.54; 12. \$1.85; 13. 2.08; 16. \$1.58; 20. \$5.86; 21. \$1.85; 22. \$1.60; 23. \$1.04."

Your committee note with satisfaction that the recommendation of Council last year to Collectors to be more punctual in having their accounts settled at the end of the year, has been attended to.

Your committee having examined the several petitions laid before them would recommend what action to be taken on them as follows; 1st Petition of Elizabeth McQuarrie for a refund in taxes paid by her in 1883. Your committee recommend the petition be granted.

2nd Petition of Henry Munro regarding an error in assessment roll for 1883. Recommended that said petition be granted and that he sum of \$100 be struck off his valuation in assessment roll for Polling District No. 9 for 1883.

3rd Petition of James McDonald for refund of taxes for the year 1883. Recommended that the said petition be granted, and that the sum of \$3.45 be refunded to the petitioner.

4th Petition of Dan'l McGillivray against excessive taxation. Recommended that petition be not granted. Petition not filed on affidavit; therefore no action can be taken.

5th Petition of Jas. Sutherland, against excessive taxation. Recommended that said petition be deferred till May term.

6th Petition of John McLellan for refund of taxes. Recommended that said petition be not granted. Not affidavit attached as law requires.

7th Complaint of Alexander McDonald, against excessive taxation. No appeal having been entered, no action could be taken.

8th Petition of Adam Kerr for refund of taxes, claiming to have been illegally taxed. Recommended that the petition be not granted.

9th Petition of Mrs. Donald Ross for refund of taxes paid in 1883 and also for reduction in valuation on assessment roll of 1884. Your committee would recommend that petitioner be exempted from taxation for the year 1884.

10th Petition of Daniel J. Smith against excessive taxation. Recommended that the amount of \$250 be struck off his valuation on assessment roll of 1884 for Polling District No. 21.

11th A memorial having been sent to your committee regarding disproportionate taxation on the properties of the Steel Company, and the Forge Company, the Glass Company and Drake

Bros. Company, as compared with other properties in the same district, your committee would recommend that, in view of evident inequality of the valuation, and also the importance of the industries, that they be reduced in valuation as follows – Steel Co. assessed \$20,000, to be reduced to \$12,000; Forge Co, assessed for \$18,000, to be reduced to \$12,000; Glass Co. assessed \$12,000, to be reduced to \$10,000; Drake Bros. assessed \$1,100, to be reduced to \$1,000.

Your committee beg leave to recommend that hereafter Assessors be more particular in ascertaining the lawful ownership of properties assessed, thereby averting much trouble to Collectors as well as loss in some districts.

Your committee recommend that the following order be passed, viz: Ordered that the County Treasurer pay to Elizabeth McQuarrie, or order the sum of \$5 County Rates, and that said amount be charge to Polling District No. 16. Ordered that the County Treasurer pay to James McDonald, Avondale, the sum of \$3.45 County Rates and that said amount be charged to Polling District No. 20.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DAVID FERGUSON THOMAS MCDONALD WILIAM SMITH

Moved by Coun. John D. Fraser, seconded by Coun. Donald Fraser, that the report with the exception of the clause referring to the factories near New Glasgow be received and adopted.

Coun. Rod McDonald said that this was another instance of reducing the taxes on the rich at the expense of the poor people. The factories he contended should be left at the amounts that they were assessed for.

Coun. Donald Fraser gave as a reason that they should be reduced n valuation that every encouragement should be given to the like by the county.

Coun. Angus McMillan remarked that the Assessors were no judges of the real value of such property, but that they were assessed low enough to be sure that they were a considerable sum under the real value of the properties. They also submitted the amount to the Companies, who took no notice of them.

Coun. David Ferguson said that the difference between the assessments of this year and last year was very glaring and quoted the figures.

Moved by Coun. Donald Fraser, and seconded, that the clause be adopted.

Motion carried. The report was adopted as a whole by motion.

The chairmen of the committee on Finance read their report, which was laid on the table for consideration.

At 1:50 p.m. the Council adjourned by motion till 2:50.

Afternoon Session

Pictou, Jan 16 – Council opened at 2:50 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Minutes of last meeting were adopted as read. The report of the Com. on Roads and Bridges which was partly considered and adopted during two previous sessions was now received and adopted as a whole. The following are the details of the Report.

The following report of your committee on Roads and Bridges is hereby submitted. Private Statute Labour has been recommended to be granted as follows:

In Sec, 1, Malcolm McKenzie. Sec. 2. Donald Sutherland, John M. Rose. Sec.3, James D. Miller. Sec. 4, Matthew Patriquin, James W. Langille, Sec. 5, Donald May, (half-labour) John J. Murray, John Murray. (A's son), Sec. 6. Daniel Murray, Sec 7, John W. Blackie, Peter McConnel. Sec. 8, John J. McCabe, John D. Cameron, Robert McLeod, Charles Clark, Thomas A. McDonald, half-labour). Sec. 9 Edward and Thos McAulay, Hugh McCulloch, Wm. Fraser John Anderson (4 days) Sec. 10 Daniel McDonald, one-half Joseph McDonald, Hugh Matheson, Basil J. Beaton. Sec 12 Edward Walters, Sec. 13 Simon Fraser, John Horn, Wm. Rae, Thos. McKay, Sec. 15, Angus Campbell, Wm Wylie, William Webster, Kenneth McKenzie (3 days), Wm. Fraser, James A. McDonald, Thos. Cameron. Sec. 16, John A. Campbell, John McDougald, John Fraser, Wm. D. Fraser, Duncan C. McDonald, John R. McIntosh. Sec. 17, R.R. Grant, John McDonald, Sec. 18, Hector Murray, John R. McLeod. Sec 19, Hugh McDonald, James McDonald. Sec 20, Robert McLeod and James Sutherland, Robert Wagner to be performed under the direction of surveyor of limits for which he applies to have his labor performed: John McIvor, Sect. 21, Alex F. Smith. Sec. 22, John McIntosh, Thomas Green, David A. Sutherland, James Cameron, Duncan Wood, Sec. 23, John Muir recommended half of his labor be performed under the direction of the Comm's of Streets, Westville. Sec. 24, John Hingley, James Ross, Angus McPhee. Sec not numbered, Thos. Kerr, Jas. Kerr and Robert Kerr recommended to be under the supervision of Donald D. McLeod.

The following petitions of Chas. Gillis Sec. 20 and of D.W. Patterson and others of Section 6, 7, and 8 were not recommended. Committees to lay off roads were recommended to the following petitioners: No. 1, Wm. McDonald, French River. Jas. W. McKenzie, Com. 2, Road from Trenton to Little Harbor Brook, Jas. S. Fraser, Com. 3, Extension of North Street from Muirhead's line to Skinner's Brook, Westville, A.W. McBain, Com. 4, Hugh McDonald, Glengarry, for pent Road petition to pay damages, Jas. S. Fraser, com. 7, Neil Matheson and others for public Road from Concord to Stewiacke Road, Jas. S. Fraser, Com 8 James McDonald, Bailey's Brook, Pent Road, James McKenzie, Com 9, J.J. Cameron and Arch Cameron pent road from their properties in Greenville to main road, Jas. W. McKenzie, com 10, Wm. Brady and D. Gunn of Green Settlement, pent road, J.W. McKenzie com 11, Alteration of old road and old pent road Sutherlands River to Vale Colliery, J.W. McKenzie, Com. 12 Inhabitants East River for public road from Grants Bridge to Hopewell Station, A.W. McBain, Com 14, New Road from Middle River at Kerr's to Westville, A.W. McBain, Com.

PROMISCUOUS – 15 Hugh Munro, River John with reference to the keeping up of gates. Recommended that the order of sessions of 1876 be rescinded and the following be substituted, that is that Howard Langille keep up the gate lying between Hugh Munro's and his property on pent road, and John McDonald do the same on-line between his and Howard Langille's property. All to be suitable swinging gates. 16. Petition of Inhabitants of Bay View for Road to shore, deferred for further consideration. 21, petition for Landing at Lochbroom Bridge, not granted. 22, Alteration of road at Hopewell deferred to May 23. Residents of County to appoint a committee to lay off streets in Trenton, granted, A.W. McBain Com.

CONFIRMATION OF ROADS – 1. Alteration of road leading from Middle River to Mill Brook, confirmed. 2. Road leading from Grants Bridge to Hopewell Station not confirmed. 3. Hugh Cameron and others for Road at Vale Colliery confirmed. 4. Widening road from Station Battery Hill to Stewiacke not confirmed. 5. Pent Road John B. Cameron East River, St. Mary's confirmed. 6. Alteration of main road leading from Elgin school house to West Branch, East River to Upper Church, Hopewell Road, not deemed necessary by surveyor, no road laid off, not granted. 7. Alteration for Fraser's Mt. Road from New Glasgow to Glenfalloch not granted 8. Road from end Drummond road to main road Stellarton confirmed, 6, Alteration of road leading from Salem Church, Green Hill to Mill Brook, deferred to May 10. Samuel Cameron and others for confirmation of road between Angus McPhee's, Elgin and said Committee, Samuel Cameron the petitioner to pay all the damages in connection. 11 Peter Carroll and others regarding Bay View Cemetery up for confirmation in May Term, and then recommended that petitioners apply to supervisors of Public Property to settle the matter; not confirmed. Report of Supervisors not recommended, as we believe that the road laid out in the year 1842 by J.W. Harris, Peter Crear and Daniel Hockin was 60 ft in width consequently by reducing the breath to 33 ft. that they would infringe on property belonging to the public 12. John Stalker for road west side of Barney's River and fix site of Bridge, confirmed. 13. Road from properties of Hugh and Robert McLeod and James Sutherland to new road leading up West Side of Barney's River not confirmed. Laying out and widening street leading from Halifax Co. office Stellarton to Railroad Station not corresponding with petition.

Precepts which have been issued but not returned. Recommended that new precepts be issued on the following petitions to the following committees.

 Inhabitants of Toney River for road from Delhi to Cape John, for road granted Albert McKean, Com. 2 George Young and other Dalhousie, for pent road, granted Jas. S. Fraser, Com 3, Daniel D. Dwyer, River John, not granted. 2. David Langille, River John, for pent road, granted, Albert McKeen Com. 5, William McKay and Robert McLeod for pent road, Carriboo river, granted, Albert McKeen Com.

All of which is respectfully submitted A.J. McKay J. Rod McDonald John McDonald Robert Maxwell John D. Fraser

The Warden had a letter sent by D.R. Cumming, constable New Glasgow to the County Clerk saying that he forwarded money being a fine collected by him, but which the clerk never received. The Warden instructed the Committee on nominations to appoint only two local assessors in each Section and to appoint three general assessors for the county. He also brought to the notice of the committee on Statute-Labor returns that in their report they said nothing about the commutation paid in. Moved by Coun. Donald Fraser, seconded by Coun. Angus Davies, "Resolved that the amount of commutation money paid and to be paid to the County Treasurer and that he Clerk of the Council attend to this without delay." Resolution carried.

Coun. McColl read the following report: "The committee to whom were referred the accounts and reports of the supervisors of Roads and Bridges beg leave to submit their report. 1st owing to the agreement of last May meeting the supervisors are not to report on the state of the Roads and Bridges in their Districts until the next May Term, consequently no reports were submitted.

2nd It was also understood by the several Road Boards that the accounts for the expenditures would not have to be submitted until May and none were prepared but as far as possible we have go them made up and will report on them in part, deferring the full report until the May term. 3rd Road Board No. 1 comprising Polling Sec's No. 1,2, 3, 4, 5, 6, - To this Board

there was a grant of \$2373.20 which has been expended as also an over-expenditure of \$165.01 but they had to be provided as a first charge on the Grant \$752.04 an over-expenditure in 1882. There appears in the Board's Expenditure rather than too many grants to Roads contrary to the understanding of last meeting of the council that the money was to be spent principally on Bridges. 4th Road Board no. 2. Comprising Poll. Sec's Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11; To this board there was a grant of \$1,547.45 which has been expended as also an over-expenditure of \$1998.42 but there was an over-expenditure in 1882 of \$256.00 which became a first charge on the grant. With the exception of the expenditure in Sec. No. 11 this board have put all their money on Bridges, but we think that they should not have contracted so large and over expenditure without leave from the Council. One item and the largest about \$1300.00 was for the saw mill bridge, but a number of the expenditures have been for repairs to roads, which should not be allowed by the Council in our present cramped financial position. This Road Board has five supervisors while all the other Boards have only one each and this may account for the large expenditure. 5th, Road Board No. 3, comprising Polling Sections Nos. 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 23. To this Board there was a grant of \$2898.00 all of which has been expended and in addition there has been an over-expenditure of \$621.60 for two bridges, but there was an over-expenditure in 1882 of \$125.78 which had to be provided for. This board has also authorized a further expenditure to build a stone pillar at the Alma Bridge. 6th Road Board No. 4 comprising Polling Sections Nos. 19, 20, 21, 22, 24. To this Board there was a grant of \$1500.00 all of which has been expended and in addition there has been there has been an over-expenditure of about \$150.00 but there was an over- expenditure in 1882 of \$200.00 which was a first charge on their grant. 7th The following is a summary of the receipts, expenditures and over expenditures.

	Rects.	Expen.	Over-exp.
Rd. bd. No. 1,	\$2373.00	\$2373.00	\$165.01
2,	1547.45	1547.45	1998.42
3,	28983.00	2898.00	621.60
4,	1500.00	1500.00	150.00
	\$8318.45	\$8318.45	\$2935.03

Showing that we have nothing in the Treasurer's hands to meet an over-expenditure of \$2935.03. 8th We would recommend now that the Council have accepted of the Government Bridge Bill (by passing resolution to put the Weslford Bridge at River John under its provisions) that the new Bride at the Saw-Mill which is not yet paid for, to put under its provisions, also as well as the Little Bridge at Albion Mines on the East River and the Bridge at Lower Barney's River unless some other plan is adopted, as it will be impossible to provide for these Bridges out of the regular Road Grant. 10th, Your committee would further recommend that all Supervisors band in the Chairman of their Respective Road Boards not later than the 1st of April next a full account of the expenditure and over expenditure of the year so that they may be published in the news papers of the county before the May Meeting. Al of which is respectfully submitted,

Committee {Jeffrey McColl {Donald Fraser {John D. Fraser {Robert Maxwell The 9th clause objected to by Co

The 9th clause objected to by Coun. Robert Maxwell and was expunged by motion of Council. The report was adopted as amended, moved by Coun. McColl, seconded by John D. Fraser, "that instead of at present selecting a site for the Asylum for the Insane, we refer the

whole matter back to the committee and commissioners as may be appointed by this Council with full power to purchase a site and erect buildings in conformity with the adoption of the report of last May term, in any part of the county of Pictou and that six members of the joint committee must agree before a cite is fixed on." Motion carried unanimously. Coun. Thomas McDonald was excused from further attendance in Council on account of sickness in his family and Coun. John McDougald, MP on account of having to attend to his Parliamentary duties. Each by vote of Council. Coun. Hugh S. Fraser chairman of the nom. Com., read part of their report regarding County officers. The details will appear in the "List of Officers". Moved by Coun. R. McDougall seconded by Coun. Angus Davies that the report so far as read be confirmed. Motion carried. Council adjourned by motion until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Morning Session

JANUARY 17th – Council opened at 10 a.m., Roll Called by the Clerk, 23 Councilors answered to their names. Minutes of last meeting were approved as read. The Warden read a letter from Mr. A.W. Fraser New Glasgow, regarding the Cumming affair. Coun. McColl said that he saw Cumming, who said to him that he was coming to settle the matter that day. The nominating Committee's report up to the sectional appointments was received and confirmed on the afternoon previous. The Warden then took each paper up separately for confirmation. Moved by Coun. J.C. McKay, seconded by Coun. John McDonald that names Donald Gray, and Alex Grant be substituted for the names David W. Culton, and John d. Dunbar, as assessors for Sec. 17. Motion carried. The Report was adopted as amended by a unanimous vote of the Council.

The Report of Committee on Public Property, was then read by the Warden, which is as follows:

"To the Warden, and Municipal Council Pictou County Jan. Term 1884.

1st Your committee on Public property, beg leave to report as follows. They are much pleased that the Old Court House and Jail are in good repair and that no further repairs are required for this term, all the rooms are clean and orderly, and no complaints against the keeper.

2nd The Market House in the Town of Pictou is not in good condition and is not in its present condition suitable or in any way creditable to the Town or County. Your committee would recommend a small sum of money to repair the Platform & c. be expended by the Commissioners of Public property in the Town of Pictou subject to the approval of the Warden of the County, also that the said Commissioners have the supervision over the said Market House and grounds at all times, and to see that the best interests of the Town and County are served and that no encumbrance of any kind will be allowed on the Market ground, that will interfere with the rights of the Town or country people.

3rd The Committee Public Property are of the opinion that the Wharves of Fishers Grant, and Abercrombie Point should be under the supervision of the Harbor Commissioners and under Harbor regulations.

4th Your committee find that the Ice Boat that formerly belonged to the County has not been accepted by the Town Council, nor disposed of as your committee recommended in their report of Jan. term 1883. Therefore we would again recommend that the said Boat be sold or disposed of in some way that it will not be a tax on the County in future.

5th We are pleased to find that the Lock-up at River John is reported to be in good order, and that no expenditure is required.

6th The Lock-up at Westville, is considered in good repair and no expenditure is required.

7th By a letter from G.W. Underwood, and Thomas Fraser Esqrs., of New Glasgow, we find that some repairs and furnishings are required in the Jail and the Town of New Glasgow, which are likely to cost the County the sum of at least Thirty Dollars, which sum we recommend to be expended under the supervision of the Commissioners of Court House in said Town of New Glasgow, subject to the approval of the Warden of the County.

8th Your Committee would recommend that the old Lock-up and grounds or lot, would be sold to the best advantage and that the proceeds from the sale of said lot and building be placed in the hands of the County Treasurer for the benefit of the County.

9th We have before us a letter from Joseph Vaux Esq., of New Glasgow, intimating that his lease expires, and that he will not rent that portion of the market at present, and further states that he will leave the fittings in the market belonging to him, so that whoever takes the market can buy them at a reasonable price and whereas there is an application from John D. Fraser, of New Glasgow, for that portion of the market that was used by the afore said Joseph Vaux, your Committee would recommend that part of the said market be least to the said John D. Fraser, on the same terms as rented last year, subject to any arrangements that the Town Council of New Glasgow and the Municipal Council of Pictou, may enter into respecting the said Market Buildings and grounds which is at present under consideration.

10th Your Committee had an application from James Connell before them, asking for a lease on a small lot adjoining his own property, and in rear of Thomas Fraser's on the Market square, ninety feet by sixty, we would recommend that the said lot be leased for sum of Ten Dollars for one year subject to arrangements now pending between County Council, and the Town Council of New Glasgow. And whereas a Committee of the Town council of New Glasgow meet with the Committee on Public Property at the request of the Municipal Council now convened.

And whereas in the opinion of your Committee that the interest of said county and town would be better served, that is to say that the Market Buildings and ground be leased to the Town Council of New Glasgow as follows, That the land known as market square between Archimedes and Temperance streets with the market buildings shall be leased to the Town of New Glasgow for a term of [??] on payment of an annual fee of twenty five cents and on condition that accommodation for market purposes at least equal to that hitherto approved, shall be supplied by the Town.

Also that the Market Buildings shall be kept insured to the amount of five thousand dollars provided so much insurance can be obtained upon the building in a first-class company or office so called, and on condition that land and building shall be had for the use of the county for all public meetings for county business upon an order from the Warden of the county.

Also that in the event of the county requiring the said building and Market rounds, that the Municipality can have the same at any time by paying the Town for any improvements that may be made on the said building. And in the event of the Town Council and the County Council not agreeing that the amount shall be paid by arbitrators agreed upon by the Warden of the County and Town of New Glasgow.

We would also suggest that a committee of three Councilors one from each Township, namely His Honor the Warden, John D. Fraser and Donald Fraser Esq. would meet in the interval with the Town Council of New Glasgow as a committee thereof with power to obtain legal assistance to protect the interests of the County, should they deem it advisable and report to the meeting of Council in May next.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Committee {Donald Fraser {Robert Dewar {Jas. C. McKay

The report was adopted by motion as read, Moved by Coun. McColl seconded by Coun. Angus McMillan. 'Resolved that the Provincial Government be requested to place the little Bridge on East River near Stellarton, under the provisions of an act respecting Bridges passed on the 19th day of April, 1883.' Moved by Coun. David Ferguson, seconded by Coun. Robert Maxwell. 'Resolved that the Provincial Government be requested to place the Saw Mill Bridge on the road leading from Pictou to West River under the provisions of an act respecting Bridges passed on the 19th day of April, 1883. Moved by Coun. John D. Fraser, seconded by Coun. Wm. Smith, 'That the Provincial Government be requested to place the bridge known as the Lower Barney's River Bridge over Barney's River on the road leading from Merigomish to the Gulf Shore under the provisions of an act respecting Bridges passed on the 19th day of April 1883. Moved by Coun Donald Fraser, seconded by J.R. Collie, resolved that the Provincial Government be requested to place the Bridge near River John on the road leading from River John to Pictou, under the provisions of an act respecting Bridges passed on the 19th day of April, 1883.

The above resolutions were for carrying out the purposes of the 8th clause, of the report of the Committee on supervisors' returns, and were carried unanimously. The committee on nominations submitted two reports as follows:

'That the following named Councilors be a committee to cooperate with the Commissioners appointed for the purchase of property and construction of buildings for the Harmless Insane. J.R. Collie, Jeffrey McColl, John McDougald, William Smith and Robert Maxwell' also 'That the Warden, Councilors Donald Fraser and John D. Fraser be a committee to meet between this and the May term, with the Town Council of New Glasgow regarding the Market building in the Town.'

Dated at Pictou this 17th day of January, 1884.

Signed {HUGH S. FRASER

{DAVID MILLER

The report was confirmed unanimously. The Report of the Committee on the finance was taken up for consideration. We give the Auditors Report in full. A small part of the committee on finances report has been summarized. The following are the reports.

"To his Worship the Warden and Councilors of the Municipality of Pictou N.S.

As Auditors we beg leave to report that we have examined the Books and accounts for 1883 of the Municipal Clerk and Treasurer, and found all correct. In the Treasurer's accounts the balance of cash from 1882 was \$10,591.45 and receipts from all sources up to the 31st December, \$31,797.25 making in all \$42,388.70. The total expenditure for the year being \$39,012.24 leaving a balance on hand of \$3,376.46. We call your attention to the large amount due for assessments viz: From the Town of Pictou, \$3,826.55. Town of New Glasgow, \$1,512.50 and Collectors fro the different Sections, \$2,710.70 making a total of \$8049.75. We understand that since the Treasurer's Book's were closed on the 31st December last, the amount due by New Glasgow has been paid. In the list of liabilities appear Presentments for Grand Jury, \$2786.87 the same amount of this item as in previous year's account showing that no portion of this liability has been paid out or called for and would respectfully recommend that the Council take some action in having this account looked into it being evident that a part of this so called liability – either does not exist or will never be called for.

Again the item for Railway Debentures \$6579.00, we think it should not appear as a liability at present, this amount not being due till the 31st of October, 1884. In the Insane Asylum account for quarter ending September, are charges for clothing to patients amounting to \$257.95 in sums from 60 cts. to \$24.55 for different patients taking this as an average quarter it would make over one thousand dollars a year for clothing alone. This we consider unfair to the County, their being no doubt, but that the relatives of a large number can afford to supply them with clothing and should do so. We find that the books of the clerk and Treasurer have been kept in a very satisfactory way, all of which is respectfully submitted.

Pictou January 11th 1884 Auditors {Fred W. Fraser {Smith Copeland

Since closing our report we have received from the Pictou Bank, the certificates paid for Eastern Extension Railway damages and we find that the following amounts have not been paid, No. 7. John Boss

INO	. /. John Ross	\$1.09
"	17 Catheran McIntosh	\$228.90
"	68 Angus McDonald	\$5.45
"	186 Cemetery	\$1.09
"	141 Miss Kirkpatrick	\$10.90
"	172 James McDonald	\$16.35
"	173 James McDonald	<u>\$27.25</u>
		\$291.03

Pictou NS, January, 12th 1884

Auditors {F.W. FRASER

{SMITH COPELAND

Your Committee on finance having examined the accounts placed in their hands, and the Report and Reference of the auditors thereon beg leave to report as follows:

The Statement of assets and Liabilities on Treasurers Report is not complete and does not show the actual finance position of the County 31st of December, 1883. The item of \$6579 for Debentures for Railway damages does not all due till November 1884, deducting the deficit (per Treasurers Report) of \$359.03 from this sum their remains a balance of \$2, 987.97 in funds of the Bills 1883 authorized to be paid at this term will have to be deducted leaving a small surplus to the credit of the County at the 31st of December, 1883. This amount is of course exclusive of any Railway damages falling due in 1884 and thereafter and \$400 for Stellarton Lockup. As to the item of \$291.03 (and interest) due for certificate issued for Eastern Extension Railway damages, the Pictou Bank holds a sum sufficient to meet their claims when called for. We recommend that the following accounts be paid, viz. To assessors for 1883, \$487.00. For medical services & c. \$105.00. For Constables, \$125.46. For Sheriff Jailers, & c. \$1,353.58. For Prothonotary Justices & c. \$139.42. For Printing & c. \$83.70. For Road Committees & c. \$99.60. For Bushing & c. \$116.45.

MISCELLANESOUS BILLS	
To G.S. Harris Comm. Court House	\$205.40
" M. Sutherland and John Brown Comm	\$31.50
"Wm. McKenzie repairs to seals	\$29.03
" Donald Cuish keeping ice boat	\$10.00
"D.C. Cameron Clerk of the Market	\$40.00
"D.C. Cameron other services	\$50.25

" Duncan C. Davies per ac.	\$4.90
" John Ferguson Reg of Deeds	\$1.75
' G.H. Elliott per ac	\$3.00
"A.W. McBean per acc.	\$5.00
"Wm. McLeod presiding officer	\$5.00
' A.W. McBean Refund, Licenses, fines	\$37.92
"The Warden office expenses 1883	\$25.00
"George Bailiff Ferryman for 1883	\$20.00
" Alex Murray reporter for 1884	<u>\$25.00</u>
	\$493.81

Total amount to be paid \$3,004.02

Your Committee beg to make the following recommendations: 1st That the list of Town Officers be printed immediately after the close of the session, by private contract under the supervision of the Clerk and Warden and that all other county printing as far as practicable be performed by Tender as formerly.

2nd That the medical attendance on prisoners in Pictou Jail be put up to tender by the year, the cost of the service not to exceed \$50.

3rd That Commissions to be paid collectors of county rates for the current year be as follows. In section No. 17 two per cent, in other sections three per cent.

4th That the Treasurer demand of the Town of Pictou, immediate payment of the balance due on the county assessment and notify all collectors and their bondsmen to settle their accounts at once, to the end of the year 1882.

5th That \$450 be assessed on Westville Police District for the current year, \$430 for police purpose and \$20 for fine purposes.

6th That \$20 be granted to maintain a suitable ferry between Carriboo Island and the mainland, subject to existing regulations.

7th That no jail fees be paid by the County, and that the salaries of County Officers for 1884 be fixed as follows: The Sheriff as jailor at Pictou, keeping Old Court House and attending criminal suits etc. \$200.

The Jailer at New Glasgow for like services \$200

" Jailer at Westville for like services \$100

" Jailer at River John do \$60

" County Treasurer for salary and Postage \$425

And for Road and Bridge services, ³/₄ of one per cent on amount of Road grant.

The County Clerk for Salary Postage and stationery \$500. Revisers as in 1883.

8th That the payments in the Treasurers account for 1883 as Contingencies be approved of. Your Committee submit the following estimate of the sums required for the services of the year 1884, and recommend that the County be assessed therefore.

ESTIMATE

County Clerk for Salary, Stationery and Postage	\$500
County Treasurer for Salary and Postage	425
County Auditors	40
Sheriff for services	130
Do as jailer at Pictou	200
Jailer at New Glasgow,	200
Do at Westville	100

Do at River John	
Clerk of the Market, Pictou	
Revisers	
Assessors	
Collectors	
Warden and Councilors	
Municipal Elections etc.	
-	
Grand Jurors	
Public Buildings (Insurance, fuel Repairs etc.	
Printing Stationery, Postage, etc	
Road Damages and Committees	
Board and Bedding for Prisoners	
Civil and Criminal Prosecutions	
Contingencies	
Lunatic Asylum	
Exhibition grounds etc. in Egerton	
For Schools,	
To Pay Debentures and Interest for Eastern E	xtension }
Railway damages to be levied as apportioned	l by }6,579
Municipal Council 16 January 1884	}
Total amount to be assessed on Pictou County	y for 1884\$33,954
All of which is respectfully submitted.	
	} JOHN MCDOUGALD
Committee of	} R. MCDOUGALL
Finance	} HUGH S. FRASER
	} ALEX FRASER

Pictou, Jan 16th, 1884

Moved by Coun. John D. Fraser, seconded by Coun. Rod McDonald, that this report with the exception of the item \$1500 for the Insane Asylum be adopted as a whole. Coun. McColl moved as an amendment that the report be adopted as a whole. Coun. John D. Fraser thought that the item of \$1500 should not be assess on the County as nothing definite had been done towards the purpose for which it was intended, and that it was not done.

} ANGUS MCMILLAN

Coun. Dewar remarked that it was strange that Councilors should try so much to hinder the project. Coun Rod McDougall said that the Council was fooling with the matter, that if they meant anything they should do something towards bringing it about. Coun. John Ferguson thought this year as favorable as any likely to be in near future for to begin paying for Insane Asylum. Coun. Hugh S. Fraser said that by putting the sum in the estimates interests would be saved. Coun. Donald Fraser was of the opinion that as the commissioners had the opinion of Councilors in open Council that, they would likely have more economical views regarding a farm and buildings. Coun Collie said that the Finance Committee did properly in placing so moderate a sum in the estimate. Moved by Coun. McColl and seconded as an amendment, that the report be adopted as a whole. Amendments put. For the amendment 13 Councilors, against

10 amendments carried. Report adopted as a whole. Moved by Coun. Donald Fraser, seconded by Coun. Hugh S. Fraser, "Resolved that the last Saturday in April at 11 a.m. be the day for distributing Statute Labor instructions in the County of Pictou." Motions carried, Councilors desiring to change the places for distributing Statute Labor in their sections can have it done by notifying the clerk.

Moved by Coun. McColl seconded by Coun. John D. Fraser. Whereas the present assessment Law does not specifically define what constitutes personal property and in consequence the assessment in different parts of the County is not at all uniform. Therefore resolved that the Legislature be requested to make such amendments to the County Assessment Act as will more clearly define what is the meaning of the words Personal Property in that Act, Motion carried unanimously.

The following resolution was moved by Coun. Dewar seconded by Coun. A.J. McKay, 'Whereas in the opinion this Council thirteen Councilors for the Municipality of Pictou could transact all its business just as efficiently and speedily, thereby ensuring a considerable reduction in the Government of the County.

Therefore resolved that the Council petition the Legislature to make such changes in the Electoral Districts as will reduce the members of Councilors to thirteen." Coun. Dewar in support of his motion said that there was no doubt but that three Councilors on each committee could do more work than five. That the work done in Council was performed by a few Councilors while others (himself among the number) did very little for their pay. Coun. McColl said that it was now too late in the session to bring the matter up. Coun. Donald Fraser thought that the majority of the sections required each Councilor. Coun John Rod McDonald agreed with Coun. Dewar, as far as the work done in the Council, but said that here was a great deal of work to be done for their section other than done while the Council is in session. Coun. A.J. McKay was of the opinion that the work could be done as efficiently by thirteen Councilors as by twenty-five. That as a country we were too much governed that some contemplate advisability of abolishing the Legislative Council and the Senate and that they should begin at home.

By motion the consideration of the Resolution was deferred until May Term.

Moved by Coun. McColl seconded by Coun. Smith that each day's attendance be counted as a whole day. Motion carried.

The Clerk read the minutes of the meeting which were approved.

The minutes were read from day to day were adopted as a whole.

At 2 p.m. the Council adjourned on motion.

Pictou 16, Jany, 1884 Robert McNeil *Warden* D.W. Matheson, *Mun. Clerk*