

1832
April 2

Extract from Minutes of Tender Committee
14 March 1832

The Committee examined the several tenders before them for various public services, report in favour of the following parties

Report of
Comtee of Tenders
Supplies

- For Advertising. Alfred Grant, "The Colonist"
- do English & Blackboard, "Canadian Record"
- For Printing Handbills and Blanks, William Gopier
- For Stationery William Gopier
- For Hardware D. W. Cochran
- For Wheelwrights work Andrew Bacon
- For Lumber Joseph Jennings
- For Blacksmiths Work John Taylor

Attest Copy
By Rich. August
Chairman

When on Motion said report is confirmed and the parties give the usual security

Read following Letter from Joseph Jennings relative to the supplying of Lumber for the City
Halifax March 23rd 1832

J. S. Clarke Esq

Letter from
J. Jennings
rel: to Lumber
Required

I have to acknowledge your note of the 20th informing me that my tender for Lumber for the use of the City has been accepted. I beg to call your attention to one article in the Tender viz the thick stuff. As it is an article required only by the City it would be a material point with me to know how much of each size would be wanted; and I would feel obliged if you would lay the matter before the Council and give me the information at your earliest convenience. I beg to offer Thomas Thidlaw Esq as my security.

Yours obed^t Servant
Ch. J. Jennings

When following resolution is introduced

Resolution rel:
to Mr Jennings
Letter

Resolved that in answer to Mr Jennings Letter the Resolution of Commissioners of Streets of 20 February 1832 be transmitted him, which on being put is passed

OK

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On Motion the following report of Committee of Flour is read

The Committee appointed on the 22 December 1851 to take up the returns of the Weighers of Flour, that day submitted to the Council, to obtain such information as might be necessary, from the Custom House and Excise Departments and report on the same

They have to report that they have attended to that duty, and find by extract herewith furnished, that there have been entered into the port of Halifax between 15 Oct 1850 and 15 Oct 1851.

129,694 Bunch Wheat Flour
 11,434 Bunch Rye Flour
 15,301 Bunch Corn Meal
 156,429 Bunch in all

Report of Flour Committee

and exported during that period of Wheat Flour 10,070 Bbl

The following are the returns of the Weighers for the same period to the 15 Oct 1851.

John Parker 41,516 Bbls Weights
 S Cartew 45,246 " "
 W Grant 41,282 " "
 Including Flour Meal & Rye 138,044 Bbl in all

embracing what was warehoused as well as duty paid, showing evidently some incorrectness in their returns by a deficiency of 28,385 Bunch the fees thereon would be equal to £118.5.5

The Committee remark that in the large importations (altho not equal to former years) of flour Rye and Meal, during the year there were only 2200 Bunch deficient in Weight but to an extent of 25,293th equal to 129 Bunch which at an average of 22th lb per Bbl amount to a saving of £45.2.6 to the Community, whereas the expenses on the whole 156,359 Bunch would be £61.9.11

The Committee deducting the 10,070 Bbl exported on which no fee was received by the Weighers calculate the gross amount received or ought to have been received by them on 156,359 Bbl at £69.16.7 and deducting £149.16.7 expenses, Weighing, Fuel and Cartage as enumerated in their account would leave a net income of £160.0.8 to each of the three Weighers of Flour, and the Committee are therefore

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Therefore of opinion that if any necessity exists to have an additional Weigher for the Convenience of the Importers one should be appointed

The Committee beg leave to recommend to the City Council that the Weighers of Flour, Rye and Corn Meal, should be required to make up a Quarterly return for the period between the 15 October 1851 to 15 July 1852 and to be continued every quarter in April, July and October of each year, setting forth the date name of Vessel, Port arrived from, Importers and Consignees, Contents of Cargo, whether Wheat, Flour, Corn Meal or Rye in separate Columns, Number of Barrels deficient in Weight of each Cargo, particular account of deficiency in each Barrel whether of Wheat, Rye or Meal

Respectfully Submitted
Melias W. 22 March 1852
By John Gibson
Arch. Scott
Geo. Escon

Read following return of Importations of Flour and Meal as submitted by the Committee.

A Return of the Quantity of Wheat Flour, Rye Flour, and Corn Meal Imported between 15 Oct 1850 and 15 Oct 1851.

Imports from

Canada		New Brunswick	United States					Total						
Wheat Flour	Corn Meal	Wheat Flour	Wheat Flour	Rye Flour	Corn Meal	Wheat Flour	Rye Flour	Corn Meal	Wheat Flour	Rye Flour	Corn Meal			
Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls			
57,766	1825	203	71,611	168	12	11,434	13,476	100	129,610	168	12	11,434	13,307	100

Exports to

Newfoundland	Sabina Dor	P. M. M.	G. Britain	N. Brunswick	Archat	Liverpool	Total
Wheat Flour	Wheat Flour	Wheat Flour	Wheat Flour	Wheat Flour	Wheat Flour	Wheat Flour	Wheat Flour
Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls	Bbls
7299	1450	1044	67	98	12	100	10,070

Return of Flour re Imported & Exported

When

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The following resolutions are introduced

Resolved that the Committee be requested to call upon the Weighers of Flour for an explanation between the returns furnished by them of Flour weighed by them and the number of Barrels imported as reported upon, which on being put is passed

Resolutions
rel: to Report
of Flour Com^{tee}

Whereas from the report of Committee on the Subject of Weighing Flour it doth appear that the Income from the Importation of Flour that the sum of £609.16.7 is paid is paid to three Weighers of Flour amounting to £203.57 each, which would if divided among four Weighers afford each £152.9.2

Therefore resolved that this Council deem it for the advantage of the Citizens that another Weigher of Flour be appointed, which on being put is passed

Resolution
to Appointment
of add^l Weigher
of Flour &c

On Motion the usual notice be given for applicants to file the same by Tuesday Week, Council to meet on Wednesday

On Motion City Council proceed to take into consideration report of Committee on Subject of Plans for grading the Streets this day read (folios 174)

Read over the various Tenders for said Work when following resolutions are introduced

Resolved that Mr. Sear's tender be accepted provided he furnish a correct Skeleton Plan not only showing the levels of the Streets but likewise the various sewers belonging to the City, their outlet, into the Harbour, Drains, Situation of Tanks, Fire Plugs and Hydrants and the measurement of the different Streets and Blocks, which on being put is passed

Resolved further that the Committee be requested to ascertain from Mr. Sear, what would be the additional cost of obtaining a Skeleton Plan of that part of the City not included in the Plan furnished by him, which on being put is passed

Resolutions
rel: to Plans
of the City

Andrew MacKenlay
Mayor

1852
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James Mahony sworn into Office as Measurer and Weigher of Flour and Meal in presence of His Worship the Mayor.

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At a Special Meeting of the City Council held this day present His Worship the Mayor Aldermen Mitchell, M.G. Anderson, Power, Smothers, Noble, Scott, More, Murrin, Gibson, Naylor, Egan, O'Neil, Roche, Shimmings, Nugent, Knight, and King,

The City Council were summoned to appoint a Weigher of Flour and Meal, to take into consideration the subject of Overseer of Streets, also relative to the Watchman, and the transaction of other Business

Read over proceedings of 2 April

Alderman Mitchell submits the Memorial of Messrs. Ware & McCulliff Agents of the Phoenix and Pelican Insurance Companies of London, On Motion same is received and ordered to lie on the table

Memorials of Insurance Comp^{ys} rel: to City Government lies on the table

Alderman Mitchell submits a Memorial of C. M. Fairbanks Agents of the Liverpool and London Fire and Life Insurance Company, On Motion the Same is received and ordered to lie on the table

Alderman Knight submits a Memorial of Richard Tremaine Esq. Secy of the Halifax Fire Insurance Co. On Motion the Same is received and ordered to lie on the table

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Alderman Gibson submits Memorial of E.G. Fuller Agent of the Washington County Mutual Ins. Company. On Motion received and ordered to lie on the Table

Memorials of Drains &c lie on the table

Alderman Roche submits Memorial of John Sub and others relative to Drains &c in Ward No 5 on Motion is received and ordered to lie on the table

Alderman Roche submits Memorial of C.D. Hunter and others relative to Sewers &c in Ward No 5. on Motion is received

Memorial of Mr. Gardener rel. to taxes lies on table

Alderman Roche submits Memorial of William Gardener relative to his Taxes on Motion is received

Alderman Scott submits report of Committee appointed 2 April relative to importation of Flour, which on Motion same is received and ordered to be read, Same is read

Report of Com. rel. to Flour Weighers

The Committee appointed at a Meeting of the City Council on 2 April 1852 to call upon the Weighers of Flour Weighed for an explanation between the returns furnished by them of Flour weighed by them and the number of Barrels imported as reported upon. Having attended to that duty. They report that the Weighers attended a meeting of the Committee and explained that many Barrels of Flour are transhipped from one vessel inward to another going outwards, and in other cases, that part of a Cargo is only landed, the remainder being carried in the same bottom to an out port, while the Weighers are not allowed to Weigh or get payment therefor and of consequence have not been included in their returns made to the Council

Respectfully Submitted
Thos. J. King
John Gibson
John Epow
Arche Scott

Memorial of John Hannan rel. to Stall

Alderman King submits Memorial of John Hannan relative to part of his Stall in Meat Market which on Motion is received

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Mr. Norton following Report of Mr. Pollock
Crosser of Street is read

Sir

The principal drains running east and West in the North Ward are Duke Street No. 1. Blacks Wharf No. 2 South gate of Ordnance Yard No. 3. Buckingham Street near West gate Ordnance yard No. 4. Bell Lane No. 5. Jacobs Lane No. 6. Waterbed Lane No. 7. Curriers Mill No. 8 Curriers Wharf No. 9. Cornwall Street No. 10. Storeys Wharf No. 11. Stammers Wharf No. 12. Under North West Corner of Fish Market No. 13. Serish Street No. 14. Near the Dock Yard Gate No. 15. Dock Yard Lane No. 16. North Street No. 17 between South Street and Hospital Gate No. 18. These drains are all necessary and some others which I have not mentioned being the outlets for the surface water and drainage in their respective localities, and as far as they have come under my notice, are very much obstructed, and many of them will soon become useless occasioned by building Wharfs. Stores &c. These drains are deficient for what they were intended, and the clearing of them in many cases will be almost equal to the expense of building them at first, generally there is from two to three and four feet of earth to be removed before the covering and accumulation which the drains contain, to prevent this expense in future the inconvenience to the public and injury to the health of the citizens would be to make the drains five and a half or six feet deep from the Docks to the West side of Water St. and on some occasions farther which would be sufficiently deep to admit men to work freely with wheelbarrows and remove the stuff to a scow in the Docks or some other convenient arrangement for its removal and prevent so great an expense in future. The drains on steep elevations seldom or ever are found obstructed and 2 or 3 feet in the clear is large enough and is not essential whether level or concave in the bottom, nor is it essential that the bottom of the drain be very exactly equalized in the bottom horizontally when the elevation is four or five degrees. A very different arrangement and structure is necessary near the junction with the Docks, and the elevation in the bottom of the drain should be equalized, and a concave bottom by paving or otherwise in building confining the matter in the bottom of the drains to the least possible space, but not so much as to prevent wheelbarrows from being used in the drains when required. Plans should not be

Report of
Mr. Pollock
rel: to Drains
of the City

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be used in the bottom of drains, if found twenty or thirty years after found, which may often be the case is no reason for the continuance of such practice, they should be built with flags or otherwise in paving or building where stones is used in the bottom of drains, flags is the cheapest particularly in this place as they can be purchased at six and seven pence per foot lineal. I have said the drainage to the Docks to a great extent is obstructed and I may add that in many places require early examination and to secure for all time to come a free and unobstructed drainage to the Docks is amongst the first which requires notice is through the Ordnance yard. It is nearly filled up from the wharf to Water Street, and cannot answer the purpose of Drainage much longer unless cleared and if the Ordnance Yard is to be raised higher which has been talked of, the expense would be greatly increased in clearing this drain, I have reason to believe that the drainage into the Docks from Cornwall's Street, Cornards Hill, Feather Bed Lane, Jacobs Hill, Bell Lane and many others in the City is much the same as the one in the Ordnance yard, two feet additional in height on the sides of this drain from the wharf to Water Street would give sufficient height from now to work freely to clear the drain and would save expense for the future, to remodel and build new drains farther into the Docks would take a large amount of the City Funds several years, and as the drains may be considered amongst the last payments connected with Street improvements, it would be difficult to proceed with the building and repairing with Statute labour, for building such drains as are required, active labourers and mechanics are required whether done by Contract or Day Work, they should be done in a substantial and workmanlike manner. Reports of Public improvements are more essential than good drainage. Health, Comfort and Safety of Streets are some of the advantages and cannot be well dispensed with in populous Cities, to build substantial drains five and half feet in the clear which would cost three as much as they do now to build them 2 and 3 feet in the clear, such drains cannot be cleared conveniently, in many places become depots for all kinds of filth, and as health may be affected had better not have been made, For it must be admitted where there is a large amount of filth in a drain that we will experience the offensiveness more by escaping at the grates than when exposed in open drains

particularly

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April 14 particularly in the City the Wind easterly, I have good reason to believe that very little of the filth which goes from yards, Houses, Gutters & into our drains running North and South, goes into the Harbour. Many substances of less gravity than Water remain in drains for want of sufficient elevation and water to remove them. Drains of less elevation than 2 Leagues or one foot vertical to 30 Horizontal seldom or ever are clear of filth and decomposition unless considerably filled with water, many of our drains running North and South and more particularly in Water Street the length of which is not more than one foot vertical to 60 and one in a hundred vertical Horizontal, drains on such an elevation I have frequently found full up to the flags and to clear them when they are paved over and put all materials in place again is equal to half the expence to build the drain at first to admit men to work with wheelbarrows in the drain to openings made in the top two or three rods apart, to where the stuff in the drain can be wheeled and thrown to the surface at a small expence compared with opening the drain the entire length which is often necessary before the drain can be cleared the openings in the top of the drains in some places could be arranged as the grates and in other places where necessary covered with flags or cast iron. Perhaps no City in the World has more advantages than Halifax for the construction of substantial and cheap drains, flags can be procured for any breadth of drain that may be required in the City, and where the top of the drain comes near the surface of the street it is preferable to an arch covering and not one fourth the expence, when a concave bottom is required in a drain it is seldom required to be convex on the top, it is only necessary on drains or Bridges that are too wide to cover with flags, or where the flags cannot be procured at a price to warrant their use, The inhabitants of Cities in all cold climates consider their Cellars the most useful part of their buildings where sufficient drainage can be had without which they are useless for domestic purposes and most injurious to the health of the occupants and as public drainage should be an arrangement for the future as well as the present. the making of the drains running North and South and more particularly from the Clocks Mummy, Suet and Meat as far as may be required high enough to admit men with wheelbarrows to clear them when required is of the utmost importance which I beg to submit to your Honourable Board

With respect Your Obedt^l Humble Servt
 Wm. Beck Esq
 Ch^r Com^r of Streets
 J. James Pollock

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The City Council next proceed to appointment of Weigher of Flour & Meal

Read over various applications and recommendations. The names are then taken when there appeared for John Winters 4 Rathburn 4. Mc Power 5. Donald McEwan 2.

John Winters appointed Weigher of Flour

St. Commals 1. Michael Herbert 1 and neither having a majority of votes, the names are again taken when there appeared for John Winters 7. Rathburn 4. Mc Power 6. and neither

having a clear majority of votes of members present the names are again taken when there appeared for John Winters 11. Rathburn 3 and Mc Power 3. Mr Winters having received

a clear majority of votes of members present is elected a Weigher of Flour & Meal for the City

The City Council next proceed to take into consideration the subject of Overseer of Streets

Read resolution of City Council of 15 Oct 1851. when following resolution is introduced

Resolution Overseer of Streets \$100 each per Annum

Resolved that the salary of the two Overseers of Streets for ensuing year be one hundred pounds each per Annum, which on being put is passed

Application for Overseers of Street

On Motion the usual advertisement for applicants for situation of Overseer of Streets to be published applications to be filed by Saturday 24 Instant

The Council next proceed to take into consideration the subject of appointment of Watchmen for the Summer, when following resolution is introduced

Resolution rel. to employing Watchmen as Sweepers

Resolved that the subject of employing the Watchmen in sweeping and cleaning of the Streets be referred to the Commissioners of Streets to report upon the subject, and in the mean time they be continued in office, which on being put is passed

By Law rel. to Stove Pipes

Read By Law relative to Stove pipes, when on Motion the same is passed, and that the same be transmitted to His Honor the Administrator and the Executive Council for their approval

Read

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Read the Memorial of John Seals and others
as this day handed in

Petitions of
John Seals &
C.D. Hunter
referred to Ald. Roche

Read the Memorial of C.D. Hunter and others
as handed in this day.

When on Motion said Petitions are referred
to the Commissioners of Streets for Ward No 5 and that he be
requested to carry out the prayer of Petitioners as far as
practicable

Alderman O'Neil submits Memorial to
Her Most Gracious Majesty relative to the release of Smith
O'Brien and others, when on Motion same is passed
nothing for it and against it the same to be signed by His
Worship the Mayor on behalf of the Council and cause the
same to be transmitted through the proper Channel

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty

The Petition of the undersigned Your
Majesty's Faithful Subjects the Mayor and City Council of
the City of Halifax in the Province of Nova Scotia
Humbly Sheweth

Petition to the
Queen
rel. to State
Prisoners

That Your Majesty's
Faithful People the Citizens of Halifax, in the Province of Nova
Scotia who with expressions of loyalty and attachment to the
the Sovereign of the Realm of Great Britain and of which
this Province is a Dependency earnestly solicit the benevolent
attention of Your Majesty to this their most respectful appeal

Animated by these feelings and
with a hopeful reliance upon the merciful and generous
disposition of their Sovereign Lady the Queen, they beg leave
to approach the throne in all dutiful submission with this
their prayer

That Your Petitioners regard with
grief the spectacle presented by some of our sister
Cities in Your Majesty's North American Colonies who
hurling into Mexico all local diversities of sentiment and
opinion, and mindful that where the Prerogative of Mercy
is to be invoked, the prayer for its exercise should be uttered
in a spirit of almost religious earnestness. Have suggested
an example which they gladly imitate

May

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May it therefore please Your most Gracious Majesty in the exercise of that power wisely entrusted by the Constitution to Concede a pardon to the Exiles from Ireland Smith O'Brien, Haughey, Donohoe, O'Boherty, Martin and Mitchell, and thus add another to the many claims personally acquired by Your Gracious Majesty to the affections of a Warm Hearted grateful and generous people

For and on behalf of the City Council
James I. Clarke
City Clerk

By Andrew MacKinnlay
Mayor

Andrew MacKinnlay
Mayor

April 24
Wardens of Flour
John Winters
Sworn

Mr John Winters having this day executed his as Warden of Flour and Meal for the City, and having taken the oath of office prescribed by Law is sworn into Office in the presence of His Worship the Mayor

1852
April 26

The Apepor elected by the several Wards of the City having been summoned this day to meet at the Mayors Office and having assembled. They and there in the Presence of His Worship the Mayor proceeded to elect by Ballot one Apepor for each ward, when the following Gentlemen were elected for the Wards affixed to their names

Ward Apepor
drawn and
Sworn

- Ward No One John Tricker
- Ward No Two John McComy
- Ward No Three Thomas McMillie
- Ward No Four John Richardson
- Ward No Five (O'Connor)
- Ward No Six William Jordan

When these gentlemen are sworn truly and faithfully to discharge the duties of Apepor for their respective Wards to which they had been drawn or elected and to make a fair and impartial Apepment of their Wards agreeably to Law. in presence of His Worship the Mayor

By Andrew MacMillan
Mayor

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At a Special Meeting of the City Council
held this day Present His Worship the Mayor Alderman
Mitchell, W. Anderson, Power, Smithers, Lott,
Morrissey, Gibson, Taylor, Egan, O'Neil, Roche,
J. H. Anderson and Knight

The City Council were summoned to
appoint two Overseers of Streets and the transaction of other
business.

Read over the proceedings of 14 April

Memorial of
Messrs Young
rel: to improvement

Alderman Morrissey submits Memorial of
Messrs Young relative to their not having filed their Statement
relative to their improvement, when on Motion same is received
and ordered to lie on the table

and John Hennessey
lie on the table

Alderman Mitchell submits Memorial
of John Hennessey when on Motion same is received and
ordered to lie on the table

Alderman J. H. Anderson submits Three
valued tenders for Grading the Streets

The following resolution is then introduced

Resolution
rel: to Obtaining
portion of Ground
near the Barracks

Whereas a certain piece of ground for some
time past in possession of the Board of Ordnance fronting
Eastwardly on Barrack Street and forming part of the
ground occupied as the North Barracks is now vacant
The Building having some time since been destroyed by
fire and it is desirable that the same should be obtained
to carry out the line of Street from the Corner opposite
Depons property to that in a line of the Fence opposite
The Garrison Chapel, Resolved that His Worship the
Mayor be requested to put himself in communication
with the Board of Ordnance and ascertain if it is not
practicable to obtain this vacant space of ground which
will be the means of affording great accommodation to the
Citizens, that part of the road in this situation being
extremely narrow

The

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The City Council next proceed to elect two Overseers of Streets to continue in Office until 15 October next

Read over the various applications, the names are then taken when there appeared James Irons 10. James Pollock 9. Mr James Irons Having received a clear Majority of votes of members present is elected one of the Overseers of Streets

James Irons
James Pollock
appointed
Overseer of Street

The names are again taken for the other Overseer of Streets when there appeared for Mr James Pollock 12. Mr Pollock is therefore unanimously elected the other Overseer

A Motion is made that Ward 4 be added to the Southern Division of Overseer of Streets duties, to which following amendment is made

That Mr Pollock be appointed Overseer of Streets for Wards No 4, 5 and 6. which amendment being put is carried 8 voting for it and 4 against it the original is therefore lost.

The City Council next take up the Loan Act and the same having been read the following resolution is introduced

Loan Act
Treasurer
authorised to
borrow money
under

Resolved that the City Treasurer be requested to advertise for tenders from such persons as may feel disposed to loan the amounts required for the use of the City according to the Act just read the £1000 required for the use of the City to be repaid in 6 months, which on being put is passed

Read following Memorials of Messrs Store and McCulliff, C. M. Dickson by Richard Sherman Esq. E. G. Fuller and Messrs W. S. B. Young relative to their not having filed their statement

To the Worshipful the Mayor and Corporation of the City of Halifax

The Petition of the undersigned the Agents of the Phoenix and Pelican Insurance Company's of London Humbly Sheweth

That

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That your Petitioners being unaware of the nature of the act of Incorporation of the City whereby affidavits of the income of the Agencies under their management were required to be delivered to the City Clerk on the first day of March last and which returns your Petitioners omitted to make until the 16th day of that month, on which day they furnished full and complete statements verified on oath.

Memorial
Hare & McQuillan
relative to
Assessment
Phoenix & Pelican

Your Petitioners therefore beg as all the information was given on the 16th that could have been supplied on the 1st and as the omission was purely thro' inadvertence and further as by the delay the interests of the City have in no wise been prejudiced, that under all these circumstances you will be pleased now to reconsider the matter and to direct that the documents be received, and that the Penalty for the omission be remitted, and your Petitioners will as in duty bound ever pray

J. Hare & M. J. McQuillan Agents
Halifax 14 April 1859

Halifax 10 April 1859

To His Worship the Mayor and the City Council
Gentlemen

I have received a letter of the 7th inst from J. J. Clarke Esq. City Clerk demanding the penalty of \$50 for not complying with the 19th Section of the Act concerning the City of Halifax and neglecting to make the proper returns of net income of the Liverpool and London Fire and Life Insurance Company for business done within the City during the year ending 31 December previous - or on or before 1st March last - As soon as my attention was called to the Act I made the return which has been filed in the Office of the City Clerk and as I hope quite in time to enable the Assessors to make out the rates, and this I state it is the object of the Act, and not for the purpose of increasing the revenues of the City. I have no other excuse to offer than absence from the City at the time, I am obliged to leave on the 24th or 25th Febry and did not return until 6th March and if it did not occur to me to make the return previous to leaving it escaped my memory, and I left without doing so, I can only assure you that I had no wish to withhold any information that I possessed relative to the Office of which I am agent, and had I not been absent
from

Memorial
C. W. Dickson
relative to
Assessment
Liverpool & London
Life & Fire Ins Co