

Mr. Street, from the Committee appointed on the thirteenth day of February last, to take into consideration the subject of the Lazaretto at Sheldrake Island, submitted their Report ; and he having read the same, handed it in at the Clerk's Table, where it was again read, and is as follows :-

4^c The Select Committee to whom was referred the Petition presented to the House, relative to the Leper Establishment on Sheldrake Island, in the County of Northumberland, together with the other documents and papers laid before the House by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, in reference to that; Establishment, and to the unfortunate people afflicted with Leprosy, having had the Petition and other documents under consideration, and after giving the subject their best attention, Report-

“ That your Committee are of opinion, the Lazaretto on Sheldrake Island has thus far, in a great measure, proved a failure : That it has neither had the effect of keeping the Lepers together, free from intercourse with the other inhabitants, nor of alleviating the sufferings or bettering the condition of the afflicted : That on the contrary, from the insurmountable aversion of the Lepers, their friends, and of the French people generally, to Sheldrake Island, it has been found not only impossible to compel all the Lepers to come to the Lazaretto, but also to prevent those that have been placed there from occasionally escaping therefrom, and returning to their friends in Tracadie: That the friends and connexions of the diseased, from the same cause, have hitherto shewn every disposition to secrete and screen the runaways from detection, rather than subject them to the misery of being sent back to the Island : That your Committee are informed, in many instances, nothing but force, and in some cases violence, could compel these unfortunate people to return to the Establishment : That your Committee are of opinion, the keeping up this Establishment at Sheldrake Island has been and will be attended with an expense to the Province, greatly out of proportion to any good hitherto derived, or likely to be derived therefrom. Under these circumstances, your Committee have turned their attention to the propriety of breaking up the Establishment in question, and of suggesting some other plan by which the sufferings of these unfortunate people may be alleviated and their condition improved, and at the same time the country may be secured, as far as possible, against the evils that might, by possibility, arise from allowing to the Lepers free intercourse with the other inhabitants. With this view, your Committee recommend that a Lazaretto for the Lepers be established at Point au Bouleau, or some other convenient place at or near Tracadie, of a sufficient size for the accommodation of all the Lepers : That from the contiguity of an Establishment thus placed, to the diseased Districts, the aversion of the Lepers to the Lazaretto would vanish, and the difficulty of collecting and keeping them together be removed, and by this means both the interest and inclination of the Lepers, as well as that of their friends and connexions, would combine in keeping the diseased in the Lazaretto, as there could then be no inducement to escape or for their friends to secrete them. In conclusion, your Committee are of opinion, that a Lazaretto of a sufficient size, for the accommodation of all the Lepers, might be erected at Tracadie, with the assistance of the materials that could be taken from the Sheldrake Island Establishment, for a sum not exceeding £300, and that the same might be kept up at an expense not exceeding £460 per annum, as will appear by an Estimate which accompanies this Report, by which it will be perceived, that a very much less sum will be required than for keeping up the present Establishment at Sheldrake Island, besides rendering the condition of these unfortunate sufferers much more comfortable,

“All which is respectfully submitted.

“J. A. STREET,
WILLIAM END,
W. WILSON,
R. THOMSON.

“Committee Room, 8th March, 1849.”

Estimate of the Expense of erecting a Lazaretto at or near Tracadie.

Building,	£200	0	0
Additional Furniture,	“	“	“
Contingencies,	“	“	“
	£300	0	0

Annual expenditure of keeping same up, reckoning the number of Lepers at thirty, the greatest number of which there is an account :—

Say thirty Lepers, for Provisions, &c., at £10 each,	£300	0	0
Servant and Keeper,	60	0	0
Fuel and Clothing,	50	0	0
Allowance to Commissioner, to be appointed,	50	0	0
Clergyman,	20	0	0

Total amount of expenditure, per year, with a prospect of being annually reduced, £460 0 0

Ordered, That the Report be accepted ; and
On motion of Mr. Street ; further

Ordered, That so much of the said Report as recommends the appropriation of money, be referred to the Committee of Supply.