

Quarterly Meeting 6th August 1901.

The statutable Quarterly Meeting of the County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Court House Wexford on August 6th 1901.

Present: - Mr Edmond Hore, Vice Chairman, presiding
Other Councillors: - Messrs Daniel Dempsey, James E. Mayler, Michael Broune, John Cummins, William Whitty, Daniel Power, James Sinnott, James A. Doyle, C. H. Peacocke, Lawrence Murphy, John F. Walsh, Patrick Ryan, M. J. Redmond, Michael Hickey, James Codd, Lord Stopford, Messrs J. Bolger, and Samuel Barrett-Hamilton.

Capt Pigott Secretary, Mr R. W. Elger, Solicitor to the Council, and Mr A. Webster County Surveyor were also in attendance.

The Minutes of the annual Meeting of the Council of June 13th and of the special Meeting of the Council held July 17th were read and confirmed.

Declaration of Office

Mr Thaddeus Bolger, Chairman of the Enniscorthy Rural District Council subscribed the usual Declaration of Office.

Inquiry - to Surveyor

Under date July 29th the Local Government Board (Letter No 41582: 1901, Wexford County) forwarded copy of a further letter which they had received from Mr Webster, County Surveyor in connection with the payment of £11 - 7 - 6. on Ferrycarrig Bridge, and requested that they might be furnished with a reply to their letter of the 5th July as to whether the County Council desire that an inquiry should be held into the conduct of the County Surveyor in connection with the maintenance of the Deeps, Ferrycarrig, and Wexford Bridges or whether the County Council consider that the whole facts of the case are sufficiently before the Board.

The following is a copy of the letter of Mr Webster referred to in the communication of the Local Government Board.

A special Meeting of the County Council of Wexford, was held on the 16th Inst. I was not present, having got no notice to attend. I have since learned that a statement has been sent to your Board drafted at that meeting to the effect that I had certified for a sum of £11 - 7 - 6.

to the late contractor of Ferrycarrig Bridge, and that I deferred the amount when I learned that a committee was about to be appointed to inspect the bridge. I beg to state that I deferred the £11-7-6 before I was aware that it was even contemplated to appoint a committee. I may mention that in all, I disallowed £38-15-0 from the old contractor and got that amount expended by the new contractor."

The following was read from the Assistant Secretary under date August 5th:-

With reference to Mr Webster's letter of the 19th July in connection with this subject (Ferrycarrig Bridge) I beg to state that Mr Webster changed the sum of £11-7-6 from the "pay" to the "deferred" column of his recommendations at the Proposals Committee Meeting of July 21st 1900, after Capt Walker had publicly expressed his intention of moving for a committee to inspect the bridge."

In connection with the closing of Ferrycarrig Bridge, the following letter was read from Mr Wm A. Browne Town Clerk, Wexford under date 5th Aug 1901:- "It appears that the public have been put to much inconvenience and the trade of Wexford Town has been injured to some extent by Ferrycarrig Bridge being closed against vehicular traffic. The matter has now been made a cause of complaint and was brought under the notice of the Corporation of Wexford to day, when I was directed to ask you to impress on the County Council the importance of steps being taken to re-open the Bridge with the least possible delay."

The Finance Committee made the following recommendation.

We believe the Local Government Board have quite sufficient evidence before them with regard to the bridges to warrant Mr Webster's dismissal and do not ask for a local inquiry, but if the Local Government Board consider it necessary to hold an inquiry, we believe it should be held by some person outside the Local Government Board who would be impartial between the Local Government

Board and the County Council."

In reply to the Chairman, Mr Webster said that he would admit that he made the change of £11 " 7" 6. from the "pay" to the "deferred" column of his recommendations at the meeting of the Proposals Committee referred to. He made the change because Capt Walker called his attention to some work which he considered the old contractor should have carried out. He was however prepared to swear that so far as he heard there was no mention of the appointment of the Committee when the change was made.

The Assistant Secretary said that the question was raised by Capt Walker immediately after the reading of the Minutes of the Proposals Committee and that at the very outset of his statement Capt Walker announced his intention of moving for a Committee. He would not however say that Mr Webster heard any mention about the Committee.

Mr Webster said the minutes would bear out his recollection.

The Assistant Secretary in reply pointed out that the minutes mentioned the names of those who formed the Committee but contained no statement as to who moved for it, nor any proposer or seconder.

The Chairman said he remembered that at the meeting in question there was a long discussion as to whether the Committee should be appointed or not, and he recollected the Assistant Secretary handing Mr Webster the recommendations. He could not say if the Committee had been moved for at the time.

Mr Elgue said that in face of the fact that there would be an Inquiry by the Local Government Board he considered it unwise to prolong discussion.

On the motion of Mr Browne, seconded by Mr Dempsey it was decided to confirm the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

Mr Browne proposed that the Secretary be directed on receipt of a reply from the Local Government Board to the resolution with reference to the Inquiry, to call a special Meeting of the Council to consider this reply and to deal with the whole question of Ferryarrig Bridge.

Mr Ryan handed in the following Notice of Motion, signed by

himself as mover and seven other members to comply with the standing orders of the council:-

"I hereby give notice that I will move at the next meeting of the county council that the resolution of the council of the 13th June in connection with Ferrycarig Bridge be rescinded"

Tool House, Wexford Bridge.

The following letter was read from Mr. R. M. Elgee, Solicitor:-

"I presume you are aware that the county council hold the Tool House on the road between the Wexford Bridge and Carcur as tenants to the Reps of Mr John Richards under a lease dated the 30th August 1869 for 860 years at the yearly rent of £1. and as no rent has been paid since that which was due up to the 25th March 1893. I should feel obliged by your procuring me a cheque at the next meeting for the amount due up to the 25th March last, being £8."

The following is an extract from the Specification dealing with this matter:- "He (the contractor) is also to pay to the Secretary of the county council the rent due and which shall accrue during the term of his contract for the toolhouse (the amount of which he shall ascertain by application to the said officer) and must furnish the county surveyor with receipts for same"

The following recommendation had been made on this matter by the Finance Committee:- "That we recommend the council to call the attention of Mr Webster to the letter of Mr Elgee as to this matter"

Mr Webster said that since he came to the county he never got any receipts at all. He understood whoever claimed the rent would apply for it. He could recover from the present contractor two years rent, and with regard to the old contractor if it could be proved that he was responsible he was prepared to take the responsibility. It was a great omission on his part not to have received the receipts, but he carried on the Specification as he found it. However he would

guarantee to make the matter alright.

Sanitary Expenses - area of charge.

Circular No. 113 M. 1901 Miscellaneous from the Local Government Board under date 25th July asking the Council for a definite expression of opinion in favour of or against establishing areas of charge for sanitary expenses other than the Rural Districts.

The Finance Committee had adopted the following recommendation:-

"Consideration postponed pending report of the views of the District Councils on the matter"

Mr Peacocke proposed and Mr Goad seconded:-

"That the resolution of the Finance Committee be confirmed, and that a copy of it be sent to the clerks of the four Rural District Councils asking them to bring the matter under the notice of these bodies and to communicate their decision to the Secretary."

Loan £370.

Under date 19th July the Local Government Board (letter No. 31313: 1901. Wexford County) wrote expressing their sanction to a loan of £370 for the purchase of land for the Enniscorthy District Lunatic Asylum; repayment to be spread over a period of 50 years. Application should be made to the Board of Works for the loan with a view to its recommendation, but no expenditure should be incurred in anticipation of receiving the loan until the Council learn that its issue has been authorized by the Lord Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury.

Under date July 30th (letter No. 43284: 1901 Wexford County) the Local Government Board wrote that they had recommended the Commissioners of Public Works this loan of £370.

Loan £1000.

With reference to the application of the Wexford County Council for a supplemental loan of £1500 for the purpose of completing alterations and additions at the Enniscorthy District Lunatic Asylum, the Local Government Board wrote under date 19th July 1901 (letter No. 41012: 1901 Wexford County) pointing out that the Council should insert advertisements for two successive weeks in some newspaper or newspapers circulating in the

Asylum District intimating that they had applied for this loan in order that the Local Government Board could take into consideration any representations made to them by duly authorized persons before giving their consent to the loan.

The Secretary said that advertisements referred to in the letter of the Local Government Board had been published, and newspapers containing same forwarded to the Local Government Board.

On the motion of the Chairman it was decided to approve of the Secretary's action in having the advertisement published.

Mr John Kehoe - Arrears

The Local Government Board under date July 26th (letter No 41582:1901. Wexford County) wrote stating that they would raise no objection to the proposal of the Council to pay Mr John Kehoe, any arrears of salary due to him since the date of his appointment to the office of Assistant County Surveyor payment to be made at the rate of £80 a year.

On the motion of Mr Peacocke seconded by the Chairman it was ordered that a cheque for the amount of the arrears £54 - 19 - 2 be paid Mr Kehoe.

Auditors Report - Asylum.

The report of Mr J. A. Baker, Local Government Auditor, as to his audit of the accounts of the Enniscorthy District Asylum was laid before the Meeting. "No order".

Salaries instead of Fees.

Under date 19th July 1901 (letter No 2818:01.) the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction wrote that having regard to the position of Mr James Malone, V.S. and J R. Webster as existing officers it appeared to the Department to be desirable before the matter of substituting stated annual salaries for the present rate of remuneration was further considered the Committee under the Diseases of Animals Act should secure the written consent of these officers to the change thus proposed.

Under date July 31st 1901 Mr J Malone V.S. Gorey wrote:-
In reply to your letter offering me a lump salary of £60. I beg to state that I cannot accept it, as it is altogether insufficient. About 15 years ago I was appointed by the Gorey Board of Guardians to the position of Veterinary

Inspector to the Gorey Union. I was paid at the rate of 15/- per case in addition to which I received £10. a year for inspecting the fairs of this district which included Gorey, Ballycanew and Coolgreany. Since the passing of the Local Government Act these fees have been paid to me by the County Council at the same rate.

My average from these sources for the five years previous to the passing of the Local Government Act amounted to £113. I am now offered a lump salary of £60. that is to say £53 less than my average yearly income before the Act passed. I am sure the County Council must not be aware of the facts of the case or they would not have offered me such a salary.

The duties to be performed in this district are very large and heavy. It is a district in which sheep especially are very numerous. It comprises such places as Broghan Mountain, Bonna Mountain, Ballythomas Mountain, and Wicklow Gap, all of which places are remarkable for the large number of sheep kept by farmers and dealers. In all cases of sheep scab or other diseases in animals I have to visit these outlying districts once a month, and now there has been added the extra duty of seeing all sheep affected, dipped and treated in my presence which makes it necessary for me to travel a very long distance, sometimes remaining away from home a whole day, as the number of sheep thus affected is extremely large.

The other Veterinary Inspectors whose duties are not by any means as large or as difficult, are I believe receiving a salary of £70. from the County Council. I respectfully submit that I am entitled to the same ^{amount of} salary as I have earned for the last five years. As however I should be very sorry to have any difference with the County Council,

"over my salary I would be willing to accept a salary of £90 a year, but it must be understood that this offer is without prejudice and must not be made use of in any way if not agreed to. If it be not agreed to, I reserve to myself the right to claim a sum not less than my average earnings for the past five years, that being the sum I am advised I would be legally entitled to receive."

on the motion of the chairman, it was decided that the recommendation of the Diseases of Animals Act Committee offering Mr Malone £60 be confirmed, and in the event of Mr Malone refusing to accept this amount that the system of payment to him by fees be continued.

Salary - Mr Dobblyn.

The Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction under date 20th July (letter No. 2726/07) wrote that the proposal to allow Mr Dobblyn, D.S. a sum of £15 per annum for inspection of sheep at fairs in his district at the rate of £1 per fair would if approved by the County Council not be objected to by the Department.

Mr Dobblyn, D.S. in connection with the proposal of the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act Committee wrote that he could not accept the £15 a year without travelling expenses.

Mr Peacocke proposed that the recommendation of the Diseases of Animals Act Committee be confirmed - Mr Codd seconded.

Mr Hickey proposed as an amendment:-

£22

"That Mr Dobblyn be allowed £22.10.0 for inspection of the fairs in his district."

Mr Cummins seconded.

There voted for the amendment the following: Messrs Murphy, Ryan, Mayler, Redmond, Bolger, Hickey, Power, Doyle, Cummins and Capt Barrett-Hamilton. 10.

Against - Messrs Walsh, Peacocke, Codd, Browne, Sinnott, Whitty, Dempsey, Lord Stopford, and the Chairman - 9.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried. He then put the amendment as a substantive proposition and declared it passed.

Colt Barden's Security.

Mr Andrew Barden, father of Mr John Barden, the recently appointed Rate collector of No. 27 Collection District came

before the meeting and explained that there was some difficulty about his son procuring a Guarantee Society as surety. They had raised the point that his son had no property of his own, but he had offered to indemnify the company in half the amount. He had forwarded particulars of his holding to the company with which he was in negotiations and expected in a few days to hear from them. He wished the council would hold the matter over till the next meeting.

Mr Cummins proposed: - That Mr John Barden be given until the next Meeting of the County Council to complete his Bond.

Mr Walsh seconded the proposition which was passed unanimously.

Tenders - District

The following orders were made on works from which no tenders were received at the District Council Meetings or at the County Council.

Enniscorthy District

No 2. To rebuild about five yards of a river wall at Graiguebeg, and to repair other portions of the wall, not to exceed £6, to be a Rural District charge - Given in charge of County Surveyor.

No 3. To rebuild a protection wall at Ballinaberna quarry on Brounrigg's contract, and to repair a retaining wall on Gilbert's contract not to exceed £7, 10" 0. To be a Rural District charge. - Referred back to District Council.

New Ross District

No 2. To repair a retaining wall and gullet between Dungulph and Fortkens. not to exceed £2. - Given in charge of Co. Surveyor.

No 3. To repair the wing walls of a bridge between Nelson and Wellington Bridges, not to exceed £3. - Give in charge of Co. Surveyor.

Wexford District

No 5. The fence on the road leading to Great Island to be put in repair cost not to exceed £2. Given in charge of Co. Surveyor.

Wexford District

No 8. To construct about 3 perches of a gullet across the road opposite Mr Simon Walsh's premises to the field adjoining, belonging to Mr Thomas Lawler not to exceed £3.

Referred to District Council.

No 12. To put two parapets on two bridges on the road between Skianna cross and the Sear bridge; not to exceed £8.

Referred to District Council.

No 13. To repair a gullet on the road between Ferrybank and Devereux's orchard; not to exceed £3.- Given in charge of County Surveyor.

No 14 To repair a bridge at Sallytown not to exceed £2-10/-

Referred to District Council.

The following tenders were accepted.

Enniscorthy District.

No 5. Edward Brien, Ryane tendered at £10. the amount allowed. The tender which was the only one lodged was accepted on the motion of Mr Dempsey, seconded by Mr Sinnott.

No 6. Edward Brien tendered at £5. the amount allowed. This was the only tender before the meeting, and it was accepted on the motion of Mr Whitty seconded by Mr Dempsey.

Taxation of Costs.

Mr Healy, Solicitor wrote under date July 25th 1901. that he had attended at the taxation of Mr Elgee's costs and that same were certified to the sum of £280-17-11 out of which the County Council is to get credit for £100- paid Mr Elgee on account leaving still due £180-17-11.

On the motion of Mr Peacocke, seconded by Lord Stopford. it was decided that a cheque for £180-17-11 the amount of Mr Elgee's taxed costs be paid him.

Postage etc. Requisition Forms.

Mr P. A. Pope, Clerk of Union New Ross. applied for payment of £8-2-6. made up as follows:- £7-4-0 amount paid on unstamped overseers Requisition forms (Registration of Voters Acts); 8/6. for expenses of Assistant Clerk to book on April 3rd to take up Requisition forms, which had been entrusted to absconding collector McGrath, and 10/- expenses of Assistant Clerk going to collector Doyle's Scullaboque on June 30th to receive information respecting changes of names of occupiers, death and general corrections for new voters List. Vouchers were forwarded for the items claimed, and Doctor's certificate dated 24th June that collector Doyle was not able to attend to his duties for a fortnight.

The following recommendation of the Finance Committee was unanimously confirmed:-

"That the amount claimed by Mr Pope be paid"

Claim-Mr W. Kehoe.

The Clerk Wexford Union wrote under date 8th July that he was still prepared to accept £40 for bringing Act into operation. The Finance Committee had made the following recommendation

"That the County Council be requested to make

"no change in their former order"
 On the motion of Mr Peacocke seconded by Mr Codd this recommendation was unanimously confirmed.

Enniscorthy Courtkeeper's Salary.

The following resolution was received from the Enniscorthy District Council in reference to the increase of salary granted the Enniscorthy Courtkeeper:-

"That this Council request the County Council to reconsider their decision with regard to the resolution of this Council, allowing Mr Aidan Lacey Courtkeeper £2 a year for extra work imposed on him on account of the Quarterly and adjourned Quarterly Meetings being held in the Courtthouse, besides he has been most obliging at all times"

Mr Browne proposed that the recommendation of the Finance Committee to adhere to the former order of the Council be confirmed - Mr Codd seconded.

Mr Bolger proposed as an amendment, that the Enniscorthy Courtkeeper be allowed £2. for extra labour in connection with the sitting of the Enniscorthy Rural District Council
 Mr Cummins seconded.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost and the recommendation of the Finance Committee confirmed.

Schedule of Presentments

A resolution was received from the Enniscorthy District Council asking that the members of District Councils be supplied with a schedule of presentments after each Quarterly Meeting, the same as formerly supplied to the associated lesspayers with the presentments set forth according to Baronies as heretofore. The resolution stated that doing away with the designation Barony and changing forms long in use with which the District Council were acquainted caused considerable trouble to them and their officials, and that the Council was strongly of opinion that the Ratepayers ought to be afforded every opportunity of seeing how the Rates are expended in a way they can understand.

It was decided to postpone the matter till April next, when the question of half yearly payments would arise.

Automobile Club.

The Enniscorthy District Council forwarded a resolution calling on the County Council to rescind their resolution refusing permission to use the roads of the County to the Automobile Club of Great Britain as they considered such a resolution highly detrimental to the interests of the County inasmuch as the money which would be spent in this County is expended elsewhere.

No order.

Proposals for Payments etc

Proposed by Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Codd and passed:-
That the several proposals sent up by the Proposals Committee of the Co. Council as regards expenditure to the County-at-large be approved subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialled by the Chairman.

Proposed by Lord Stopford seconded by Mr Bolger:-
That the several proposals sent up by the District Councils of the County be approved as set out in Schedules A. B. C. D. E. F. G. & H. subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialled by the Chairman.

The following amendment was proposed by Mr Peacocke, and seconded by Mr Codd:- "That the several proposals sent up by the District Councils of the County be approved as set out in Schedules A. B. C. D. E. F. G. & H. and that with regard to the proposals for new works in Schedule E. for the Enniscorthy Rural District Council that no contract - To keep in repair for four years and eleven months 936 perches of road between the District bounds and Garrylough cornmill and the lane in the townland of Ballinamona which was given to Miss Eliza Doran, be rejected on the grounds that the Enniscorthy Rural District Council without sufficient reason refused to accept the lower tender sent in by Mr O'Connor in this particular case."

There voted for the amendment Messrs Murphy, Mayler, Peacocke, Codd, Browne, Dempsey, Whitty, Doyle, and the Chairman, 9.
Against - Messrs Redmond, Bolger, Power, Dickey and Lord Stopford, 5.
Declined to vote - Messrs Ryan, Walsh, Sinnott, and Cummins, 4.

Proposed by Mr Peacocke seconded by Mr Browne and passed:-

That the road for which Miss Doran was accepted contractor at the Enniscorthy Rural District Council be given in charge to the County Surveyor and that the attention of Mr Webster be called to the advisability of considering the claim of Mr O'Connor, the Contractor who sent in the lowest tender to carry out the work."

Office of Coroner.

A resolution was received from King's County Council calling on Parliament to abolish the office of coroner in Ireland as they believed it was unnecessary and added needless expense to the Rates of the County - "no order"

Dates of Meetings

The following were the dates fixed for the Quarterly Meetings of the Rural District Councils

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Wexford District Council | 5 th October 1901 | at 10.30 O'Clock |
| Enniscorthy | 8 th October 1901 | at 11.30 " |
| New Ross | 12 th October 1901 | at 10.30 " |
| Gorey | 9 th October 1901 | at 12 " |
| Proposals Committee | 17 th October 1901 | at 2. " |
| County Council | 5 th November 1901 | at 12 " |

Irish Industries

The following resolution, Notice of which had been given by the Chairman of the Council, was moved by the Chairman of the Meeting and unanimously adopted:-

Resolved: That the resolution of the Irish County Councils General Council with reference to Irish Industries be adopted by us and entered on our Minutes, and that in future a clause in all our advertisements for supplies as follows:- Preference will be given to articles produced in Ireland provided the Irish goods be of satisfactory quality and fair price. All tenders must state whether the goods tendered for are of Irish Manufacture and contractors whose tenders have been accepted, must prove that the goods they supply as Irish-made are Irish made"

The following was the resolution referred to:-

Whereas the people of a country should always seek to promote and develop its industrial resources.

And Whereas, the industries and manufactures of Ireland have suffered grievous neglect and injury by reason of Irishmen and Irishwomen and public bodies throughout the country having failed to give practical support to such industries and manufactures.

And Whereas, such neglect has been a main cause of the emigration to foreign lands of many thousands of our countrymen of all classes, and has thrown upon the rates the support of many aged and infirm persons.

Be it therefore resolved that the Irish County Councils General Council hereby put upon record that Irish manufactures deserve and should receive the earnest and practical support of the people of Ireland.

And further, that advertisements issued with regard to all supplies needed in public establishments throughout the country should state that preference will be given to articles produced in Ireland, provided that the Irish goods be of satisfactory quality and fair price, and that all tenders must mention whether the goods tendered for are Irish Manufacture.

On the motion of Mr Peacocke seconded by Mr Browne, it was decided that the Secretary send a copy of this resolution to the four District Councils and also to the Asylum and Infirmary committees.

School Attendance Officers The Assistant Secretary reported that on June 27th he attended the first meeting of the Enniscorthy Rural District School Attendance Committee at which it was decided to appoint two School Attendance Officers at a salary of £25 each and a Secretary at a salary of £15 per annum. He also attended the meeting of the Committee on the day of the election of the Officers. Messrs Nicholas Flood & Thomas Cosgrave were elected Attendance Officers and

Mr E. Mernagh Secretary

Mr Dempsey proposed and Mr Cummins seconded that the action of the Enniscorthy Rural District School Attendance Committee with reference to the appointment of Officials be approved.

Passed.

Change of Bond.

Mr F Blake, Rate Collector, wrote under date Augt 3rd asking permission to change his fidelity Bond from the General Accident Insurance Corporation to the Equitable Fire and Accident Office as he was informed the premium in the former Office is to be higher in future.

It was decided that the matter be postponed for twelve months.

Margarine.

The following minute of the Finance Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Browne, seconded by Mr Peacocke:-

"Letter was read (No. 16023/1901) from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction under date 24th calling attention of the Council to the fact that one of their Inspectors had purchased from Eliza Dowling, 16 George St. Enniscorthy a substance for butter which contained 14 per cent of foreign fats.

"Mr R. H. Elgee the Solicitor stated that he had issued two summons against Mrs Dowling, one for selling butter containing foreign fats, and the second for exposing margarine for sale without a label.

"Mr Peacocke proposed and Mr Godd seconded that the Council be recommended to approve of the action of Mr R. H. Elgee in the matter of the prosecution of Mrs Eliza Dowling."

Mr. Grath - Assurance Co.

On the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Peacocke, the following minute of the Finance Committee was also confirmed:-

"The following letter under date 30 July 1901 from the General Accident Assurance Corporation Perth in connection with the absconding of collector Mr Grath was read:-

" I referred your letter of the 26th Inst. to my Board yesterday, a special Meeting of which was called in consequence of the information which we had received regarding this matter.

Our Representative called upon 11 of the Rate Payers out of the great number which you sent us, and out of these 11, 3 of them have not paid any rates at all, and one of them had only paid a less sum than you claim for. If we take it at the same proportion all over, your claim will be reduced about one half.

My Board are communicating with the Local Government Board whether it is with their cognisance that the Wexford County Council have made a claim upon us for rates stated to have been collected and misappropriated by McGrath, when these rates have never been paid. I am also instructed by my Board to request that you will get a formal explanation from a meeting of your Council as they fail to see how a respectable body could be guilty of such a gross attempt to obtain money from our Company which was in no way due.

The matter is too serious a one to be lightly dealt with and we are therefore awaiting your explanation and that of your Council, before placing ourselves in communication with the Crown Authorities.

It was decided to recommend the Council to approve of the following reply drafted by Mr Elger:-

" I submitted your letter of the 30th ult. to the County Council at their meeting on Aug. 6th and they desire me to say in reply that your Directors and you must be perfectly well aware that the charges made against the Council therein, are utterly untrue and entirely unfounded, and the only construction they can put on the letter is that it was written to endeavour by a threat to prevent the Council from exercising their plain legal duty of enforcing payment from your Corporation of

Mr Gratch's defalcations.

This course might perhaps answer in Scotland but it will not avail here and I have been instructed to at once commence proceedings against your Corporation for payment of the sum of £ 711. 18. 3/2 being the amount certified by the Auditor of the Local Government Board as payable under the Security Bond given for Mr Gratch."

Secretary's holiday

On the motion of Mr Peacocke seconded by Mr Bodd, Captain Pigott was granted a ~~fortnight's~~ ^{months} holidays from Monday the 12th, the Assistant Secretary to act as Secretary during his absence.

Kilmore Pier Committee

On the motion of Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Browne, the Statement prepared by the Kilmore Pier Committee was ordered to be forwarded to the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, and on the motion of the same gentleman, it was decided that the Vice-President be asked to receive the Kilmore Pier Committee as a deputation on some convenient date and that the Chairman of the County Council, Sir Thomas A. J. Esmonde, be specially invited to attend.

Notice of Motion standing in the name of Mr Browne with reference to expenses for deepening passage at Kilmore Pier was withdrawn.

Notice of Motion standing in the name of Mr Hearn with reference to furnishing two reports to the County Council instead of four annually was postponed till next Meeting.

Advertising

Notice of Motion in the name of Mr Cummins to rescind the resolution of the Council accepting the contracts of the Wexford "People" and the Wexford "Free Press" for advertising was postponed till the next Quarterly Meeting.

Telephone Co. Council Office

Notice of Motion standing in the name of Mr Donohoe for the installation of a telephone in the County Council Office was moved by Mr Walsh, seconded by Mr Cummins.

The motion on being put to the meeting was declared defeated by the Chairman.

Thos. Sullivan Esmonde.

7th 1907.