

THE LATE RATES CASE

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THE CLERK read a document which had been served by the Clerk to the Leicestershire Board from Messrs. Watson, solicitors, Newcastle, detailing the cent case won by that Board against the North-eastern Railway Company, at the Court of Queen's Bench.
MR. CHARLTON said it was now quite clear that all railways constructed previous to any Act of Parliament were liable to be rated on the full amount.
MR. GILBERT: The same case also decides the liability of the Stockton and Darlington Railway. It is as simple for us to give notice to the Board as disputing with them, and I was then sorry that we had not sought to test the matter. I now beg to move the following resolution, notice of which I gave at last meeting:—That the minute of March 4, 1868, which supposes Parliamentary powers to be possessed

The CHAIRMAN, in seconding the motions, said it was right for Mr. Calvert and all of them to compliment the Leaside Board for the energy they displayed in the case that had just been settled, and for the decided victory that body had gained over the North-Eastern Railway Company; but he would not have them to suppose that the Consett Board had shirked its duty. They liked their brethren at Leaside to carry off the laurels that they had so well

won" (hear, hear).—But Consett had his share in the victory, as it bore its share of the expense. Seeing that Consett had not been behind-hand, Mr. Calvert should retract his banter. (Laughter.)

Mr. CHARLTON pointed out that Consett having been mixed up in the case, it was weakened thereby, and any fear of the case being lost sprung from that fact.

After several members had stated that it was an understood matter that Consett Board had to pay its share of the legal expenses, Mr. Calvert's motions were put to the meeting, and carried.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The report of the Surveyor showed the roads to be

in a bad condition, on account of the weather; but they would be attended to as soon as possible. Attention was drawn to a piece of road near the stagecoach on the road to Connett Hall, which was dangerous, and could be repaired at a trifling cost.

Mr. CHARLTON stated that Messrs. Wade and Hudson and himself had suggested to the Surveyors to have the road straightened and made safe, would necessitate an encroachment on the Conestoga Company's land, but they did not offer any objection.

Mr. DAVISON remarked that it was a public road and it was the duty of the Board to make it safe.

After a little talk on the motion of Mr. CARLTON

The CHAIRMAN then complained about so many parties having the use of the Board-room. He expected that the Board had taken it for their use, but instead of that, it was thrown open to almost anybody. Only the other day, the papers of the Board was strewn over all the floor, and everything

The CHAIRMAN thought that for such a rent ought to be exclusively devoted to the three. The Benfieldside Board had the commodious billiard-room of Shotley Bridge Town Hall, which was papered, matted, and fitted up, for £15 a-year, at which they kept the key. They had no right to subjected to such annoyance at Consett.

The CLERK explained that the Japanese jury had had the use of the place as a dressing-room, reply to a member, he said the key was left at

Mr. CALVERT: If they will not let us keep the key, I beg to move that we look out for another place.

Mr. HUTTON seconded the motion.

Mr. CHARLTON asked if it would not be better the Clerk to write to the managers stating the same? The place suited the Board, and they could get a better. If it were exclusively set apart for use of the Board, the Guardians, and the ratepayers if the benches were cleared out, more chairs be put and right generally, they could do very well with it.

Mr. SCOTT made a motion embodying Mr. Charl-

important to property owners. The CLEEK called the attention of the Board to the advisability of owners of property renewing claims to vote at Local Board elections in that city. It is probable that the recent repeal of Small Tenements Act would have rendered a step necessary, and it would be safe at all events to do so.

Mr. CHARLTON, in answer to Mr. Collinson, said it was not necessary for owners of property to be present also in order to have a vote.

RATING AMENDMENT.

The CLERK informed the Board that the district were wholly rated on the one-half value. He said that they were necessitated to separate farm-houses and buildings from the land and rate them on the full rateable value. He desired the Board to appoint a valuer to make a proper division of the buildings and the land on the farm-house district separately. Mr. CHAIRMAN said the valuation was made at Leadgate by a valuer of the Board.

Mr. COLLINGS then moved that the unit placed in the hands of Messrs. Routledge, Cox & Co., which was seconded by Mr. S.

The flagging and chandling of Nile street then introduced and became the theme of an interesting discussion. Mr. COLLEMAN advocated the being well done before the Board took it, but CHARLTON thought a kerbing on each side, if fishes was sufficient, and he had instructed the expert to make on the Company's side. CANNON contended that to make a footway on each side would make the street too narrow, and if the Company joined in the expense of flagging it, it would be much better. Mr. HUTTON contended that it would be better and that it

that the street, the property under and on the side, the gateways to be paved.—Mr. H. said the fairest way would be for the company to determine the real value of their property.—Mr. CHALTON: We will agree to that. CHAIRMAN: Did you see how Mr. Davidson's car could hold as the owners on the one side had flagged Middle Street, and the company had nothing to Sunderland Street.—Mr. CHALTON: not do Front Street without being asked CHAIRMAN thought the company would not do to their part; they were generally the move in improvements.—Mr. CHAIRMAN: several of the owners, and the universal for

that they were unwilling to do. My thing was
company paid an equal share. Mr. CARLTON
was practicable, there are some folk wouldn't
company pay the whole of the rate. (Laughter.)
"No, no, no."
Mr. SCOTT afterwards moved that the Reso-
lution inspect other back streets, and see what
had been pursued there; they might then do
the principle to be observed in Nile Street, and
at next meeting.
Mr. CALVERT seconded the motion, which
passed.
SPT. THOMPSON'S RESIGNATION.
The CHAIRMAN then read over a memorial
from

The members and officers readily signed the memorial.

"NO THOROCTHFARE."

Mr. ROUTLEDGE said that he had notice that the North-Eastern Railway Company had up a public street at Blackhill. The station is behind Founroy Row, and when the

On the motion of Mr. Scorr, the Inspector instructed to serve a notice upon the railway company to remove the obstruction.

FINANCE.

The Surveyor's pay-bill was as follows:—labour, 26 5s.; contract 24 15s.; team 18s.; materials, 210 5s. 2d.; total, £22 3s. 2d. The list—Private improvements, £1 17s.; day labour materials 28 2s.; total, £15 19s.

On the motion of Mr. Cresswell, seconded

The Auditor's summary will be seen in our following columns.

Cheques were signed for £53 6s. 4d. amount in the bank being £119 19s. 2d.; the due to the Board is £66 17s. 10d.

The Board then adjourned.

