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Vy The Committee heretofore appointed to devise a plan for a poor house &c. for this County this day made their report which was received and adopted, and is in these words viz: "The Committee appointed by the County Court of Southampton to devise a plan for providing a poor house, and for the better management or government of the poor in future, having taken the subject into consideration and carefully examined the Law for such cases made and provided, have come to the following conclusions viz:

1st That the law gives to the County Court no power, further than "to provide or build a poor house and work house, for the reception of the poor and for the reformation of vagrants." and that the whole management of the business of providing for and regulating the concerns of the poor is vested in the hands of the Overseers of the Poor – See Revised Code. 2 Vol. page 275. Sec. 58.

2d That it is at least doubtful whether any plan could be devised which under the entire control and management of the Overseers of the poor would be found in practice to remedy the evils now complained of: because from the dispersed situation of those officers living as they do in different sections of the County quite remote from each other, and being call'd together (as they are under the present Law) only once a year, and that for a special purpose, it seems next to impossible that they could act in concert for any length of time on the subject.

3rd That if the laws were so amended as to place in the hands of the County Court, the power of appointing a Steward (& other necessary agents) designating his duties, compelling him to give bond and security for the faithful discharge of them, and of removing him on conviction of mismanagement: and especially if the Court were to have the power of devising a plan for the whole government of the institution, and for the management and discipline of the paupers when there, your Committee are of opinion that a System might be adopted with a stronger probability of success. And if such were the Laws they would propose the following plan. Procure a piece of land (mostly wood land) in some retired and healthy part of the County sufficiently large to ensure a supply of fuel &c. for a number of years, say two hundred acres or thereabouts. Build on this for the reception of the poor eight houses of the following description (say frame d houses) each to be 18 feet square and 8 feet pitch between sill and plate. Place two of these houses so near each other, end and end, as to receive between them a stack of chimneys to answer for both. let each have a good plank floor above and below, one door on each side, one six light window on each side one in the end below, and one above. let the roof extend quite over both the houses, so as to cover the body of the chimney – the funnel to extend through and three feet above the roof. Set the houses be arranged in two parralel rows East and West and facing each other at the distance of 180 feet from one Couple to the other endwise and the rows to be 180 feet apart. The whole to be of good heart of pine, except such as will not (from its particular place in the building) be subject to decay, and cover with good heart Cypress Shingles, nailed on sheting plank. Contiguous to these

buildings, erect a good framd house for the Steward rooms below and two above with two brick chimneys, and built in a plain but workman-like manner, at a suitable a framd house 18 + 18 with a plank floor, and a brick c cellar); a dairy 10 by 10. a meat house 12 by 12. 12 place of deposit for the provision &c to be laid in for the 16 feet by 16 and 8 feet pitch with two floors 8 feet ap upper floor and a log crib 14 feet by 12 and 11 feet p and sheeting plank, covered with shingles – Employ family, but of unquestionable humanity, honesty, indu him reside on the poor house premises in the house pro let him be contracted with to remain in Office at the County Court at any time on complaint of the O.S. satisfactory evidence of mismanagement: he having to Set it be his duty to receive into his care all such a utensils &c as shall be sent to the poor house by the with whom they or their agent may contract with to for the use of the institution, and to note in a book for that purpose, every article which he shall so receive and of whom and under what particular contract, Overseers of the Poor, if it should be sent by any over pass his receipt for the same in every instance with good security for the faithful performance of Set the Overseers of the poor contract with some building shall be completed) for a sufficient quan sels and other things which they shall deem necess persons as well in their extermination be sent to the time as circumstances may require. And in all c that purpose, they should forthwith give information tracted for, with whom, and at what price, and in livered to the Steward at the poor house – Among should be 2 or 3 milch Cows 1 or 2 Sows and pigs a use of the establishment, and the Steward should rec poultry – So soon as the necessary articles of be shall be furnished let an inventory be taken, sign of the Overseers of the poor and returned to the County kept for the special purpose of recording such things Court shall deem proper – and these inventories sh as the number of articles shall be increased – To