

## ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

The following Bills were introduced and read the first time:

Mr. Ballantyne—To amend the Assessment Act.

Mr. Leys—To amend the Act respecting the spread of contagious diseases among horses.

The following Bills were advanced a stage:

To incorporate the town of Bracebridge and for other purposes—Mr. Marter.

To confirm the title of the corporation of the county of York to the York roads and the surveys thereof—Mr. Smith (York).

To incorporate the Toronto Belt Line Railway Company—Mr. Gilmore.

To incorporate the Amherstburg, Lake Shore and Blenheim Railway Company—Mr. Balfour.

To provide for the extension of the water-works of the city of St. Catharines, and for other purposes—Mr. Garson.

To enable the town of Cobourg to aid the Cobourg, Blariston & Marmora, or the Cobourg, Northumberland & Pacific Railway or other railroad—Mr. Field.

Mr. Willoughby moved, That in the opinion of this House it is expedient that all police magistrates should make the same returns of convictions and fines imposed by them in respect of infringements of the Canada Temperance Act as are made in other cases to the clerks of the peace. That such returns, when made, should be published, and that all expenses in connection with the enforcement of the Act should be submitted for audit to the county auditors. He said he believed the publication of these details would have a deterrent effect upon likely offenders against the Act.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) said he presumed the hon. gentleman meant that police magistrates should make the same returns as were made by justices of the peace. No complaints had so far been made to the Government with reference to these accounts. The accounts were open to the scrutiny of the public, and it would be absurd to have the reports printed. He hoped the hon. gentleman would not press the motion.

Mr. Willoughby said that attempts had been made to procure returns from the clerk of the peace for his county, but to no purpose, although the parties seeking the information offered to pay for it.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) said that all they had to do was to make a complaint to the Government, and he would see that the matter was attended to. There was no reason why the returns should not be furnished.

The motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Craig moved for an order of the House for a return showing a list of all text books for each of the first five years, the use of which was compulsory on pupils—first, in the High schools; secondly, in the Public schools; and third, in the Separate schools. He said that the purchase of text books pressed sorely on parents. With regard to Separate schools he said that some held that he was not entitled to the return, as the text books used in these schools were not under the control of the department.

Mr. Ross (Middlesex) said that he would have no objection to the motion provided the hon. gentleman amended it to read "use of one or more of." In no case had a change been made in the text books without the consent of the local trustees. When a change was suggested and a new book authorized, the option was left to use either the new or the old book. Every possible effort had been made by the Department of Education to lower the price of text books. With reference to the Separate schools he would furnish all the information possible on the subject of their text books.

Mr. Meredith wanted to know if the Government had any control over the text books used in the Separate Schools.

Mr. Ross (Middlesex) said that there was a general minute of the Council of Public Instruction to the effect that none of the books used in the Separate Schools should reflect on our constitution, our laws or general institutions.

Mr. Meredith said that although perhaps it was out of place for him to bring the matter into the present discussion, he wished to say that he believed that every school receiving public money should have its text-books under the control of the Government.

The motion passed as amended.

The following Bills were introduced and read the first time:

Mr. Mowat—Respecting certain Acts relating to incorporated companies; also to amend certain laws affecting the municipalities of the Province.

Mr. Mowat's Bill regulating certain matters under the Land Titles Act was passed through Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Mowat's Bill respecting appeals on prosecutions to enforce penalties and offences under Provincial Acts was passed through Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Meredith directed attention to the fact that the Bill appeared to deal with procedure in criminal matters, a subject belonging to the jurisdiction of the Federal Parliament.

The Bill to give representation in the Legislature to the district of Nipissing was considered in Committee of the Whole and progress reported.

The Bill to amend the Act respecting the Federation of the University of Toronto and University College with other universities and colleges was taken up in Committee of the Whole, passed and reported for a third reading.

The amendments to the Pharmacy Act were explained by Mr. Gibson (Hamilton).

The apprenticeship clause caused considerable discussion. This clause compels the student to serve four years as an apprentice and attend two courses of lectures at the College of Pharmacy, making the course five and a half or six years.

Mr. Meredith said that if the object was to lessen the number of druggists the wrong method was employed, because the long term of service would be a hardship to the poor student.

The clause was passed over.

The committee rose and reported progress, after making some amendments.

The House again went into Committee of Supply on the estimates.

On the item for maintenance and repairs of Government and Departmental buildings.

Mr. Meredith wanted to know why some \$17,000 had to be voted upon for repairs

and maintenance of the Parliament buildings when new buildings were in course of erection.

Mr. Fraser explained that it would be some time yet before the new building would be ready for occupation. He added that there was no truth in the rumors that there was no sufficient stone in the Credit Valley quarries of a certain quality to finish the buildings. Besides he was in a position to state that not a cent had so far been spent in extras.

The committee reported to the House and asked leave to sit again.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed:

To amend the Ontario Shops Regulation Act, 1888—Mr. Fraser.

Respecting St. Andrew's Church, Darlington—Mr. McLaughlin.

Mr. H. E. Clarke (Toronto) asked whether the Government had received copies of any resolutions passed by the Bar Association of the County of York, or the Canada Land Law Amendment Association, or any other bodies or meetings of citizens of Toronto, and from whom, protesting against the proposed division of the city of Toronto Registry-office.

Mr. Mowat said copies of the resolutions referred to had been received. The Canada Land Law Amendment Association had for its object the promotion of the Torrens Act, and their objection was that the division of the Registry-office might interfere with that object. The objection of the Bar Association was that certain provisions were needed to secure the efficiency of the Registrars. He had found that the provisions referred to could be made, and the Bill before the House contained them.

Mr. Preston moved for a return showing the names of all publishers of Public School text-books, with the respective books published by them and the prices thereof. Also, for copies of all correspondence by or with the Minister of Education or any officer of his department respecting the price or publication of Public School text-books subsequent to that already brought down. He said that great dissatisfaction existed in the country at the manner in which the school text-books were issued and sold. He referred to the changes in the readers and in the prices thereof.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Balfour moved the second reading of the Bill entitled "The Homestead Exemption Act." He said it was a deplorable thing that so many Canadians left their native country. At the present time there were over two millions of Canadians and their descendants living in the United States. There was a particularly large exodus from the western counties of Ontario. He fancied the exemption of homesteads would do much to prevent this depletion of the country. They had already recognized the principle in their legislation on free grant homesteads. In most of the States of the Union there were exemptions on homesteads, and the limit was on the average about \$1,000. His Bill embraced the best provisions of the various American Acts. He made the exemption from seizure, etc., on homesteads up to \$1,000, and extended the exemption during the life of the widow of the holder. The property was not, however, exempted from taxes, nor from debts incurred before the registration of the property as a homestead.

Mr. Fraser did not think the House should pass this session so sweeping a measure. The question had not been discussed in any constituency for the past twenty years, with the exception, perhaps, of that of his hon. friend. The homestead laws of the States all differed, and hence there was additional reason for the House having time to consider such a measure. Moreover, so important a measure ought, he thought, to be introduced on the responsibility of the Government. During the recess the question could be discussed by the public, and the Bill could then be reintroduced next session. Another reason why they should hasten slowly was on account of the danger of damaging the credit of the Province.

Mr. Balfour withdrew the Bill, expressing the hope that next session the Government would bring down a measure of the kind.

The Bill was withdrawn.

Mr. Stratton moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Municipal Act. He explained that the first clause provided for the election of councillors for the town by a general vote. The second clause made it impossible for a councillor to be a Public or High School trustee.

Mr. Meredith considered the Bill of too great importance to be taken up at this stage of the proceedings.

The Bill was read a second time and referred to the Municipal Committee.

Mr. Fraser moved the third reading of the Bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation for Injuries Act.

Mr. Meredith moved an amendment in the direction he had indicated in his objections in the committee, providing that want of the notice referred to in clause 12 shall not be a bar to the maintenance of an action if the Court held such want of notice had not prejudiced the case.

The amendment was lost.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

The following Government Bills were advanced a stage:

Respecting damage to lands by flooding in the new districts—Mr. Hardy.

Respecting the districts of Parry Sound and Muskoka—Mr. Mowat.

For enforcing orders under the Act respecting master and servant—Mr. Mowat.

Respecting steam threshing machines—Mr. Drury.

Respecting the powers of electric light companies—The Attorney-General.

Mr. Ross (Middlesex) resumed the debate on the motion for the second reading of Bill No. 105, respecting the formation of new counties. He explained that there were clauses in the Bill that guarded against unjustifiable interference with old county lines. He showed that the will of the majority of the ratepayers was to be considered, and that it would be impossible to make small counties. After the majority of ratepayers in the majority of the municipalities had decided that a county was necessary then a commission was to be appointed consisting of three county judges to pass on the matter. The Bill might be amended in committee to overcome some of the minor defects. If a Bill were furnished giving counties a feasible method of decentralization to suit local conveniences much would have been accomplished.

Mr. O'Connor said that the majority of the municipalities and towns were against

the Bill. All the towns said was, "We have no use for new counties, but if you are going to give us a Bill we want to be a county town." He showed that the formation of new counties would add materially to the county rates. What the people required was that the agitation should stop. It would continue forever under the present Bill. A few ambitious active men in a small town anxious to be county clerks, registrars or sheriffs could circulate a petition among the farmers, and with a few plausible words get them to sign it, forming a new county. Another wrong was that, under the Bill, four municipalities could coerce three into forming a new county.

Mr. Wood (Hastings) supported the Bill. He said that some measure of this kind was necessary, and that it would be much better for the people to have the say in the formation of a new municipality than to have the matter, as at present, in the hands of the Government.

Mr. Rorke did not think the Bill contained adequate protection for the people. The House went into Committee of the Whole on Supply after recess, Mr. Hartcourt in the chair.

Mr. Meredith asked several questions with reference to the building of colonization roads in West Algoma district.

Mr. Hardy said that the country in that section of the Province was rapidly being opened up by miners and explorers. Millions of untold wealth were daily being discovered, and it was necessary that some means should be furnished for bringing the products to market.

Mr. Meredith asked if it was true that large quantities of these mining lands were being bought up by speculators.

Mr. Hardy said that such was not the case.

The following items for colonization roads were then passed:

North Division..... \$16,700

West Division..... 13,100

East Division..... 38,100

General purposes..... 25,900

Total..... \$93,800

Mr. Clancy pointed out that thousands of dollars were squandered annually in useless surveys. Townships were surveyed every year that would never be fit for colonization.

Mr. Murray said he hoped the Government would continue the surveys until every township in the Province was surveyed.

Mr. Wood (Hastings) said the Government had to have a policy in this matter. The policy was to be to survey the outlines of such townships as were unfit for settlement.

Mr. Fraser said that it was a good thing that the Government had not retained this policy. There were dozens of townships in the northwestern portion of the Province now filled with thriving settlers where surveys had been delayed.

Mr. Armstrong said that many thrifty settlers had settled in his county before surveys had been made; himself among the number. It was better to have the townships surveyed before settlements were formed.

Mr. Clancy held that half the surveys had been useless.

Mr. Hardy said that if there was one thing more than another that reduced to the credit of the late Commissioner of Crown Lands, Mr. Pardee, it was the fact that he had expended so much energy in opening up townships for settlement.

During his tenure of office no less than 230 townships had been surveyed and opened for settlement.

Mr. Meredith asked if it was necessary to go to Quebec for a surveyor. He noticed that the gentleman who surveyed the township named after the member for Prescott hailed from Montreal.

Mr. Evanson said that the surveyor was a native of Montreal. The hon. gentleman might look upon it, however, as another example of French Canadian invasion in Ontario. If so, he would ask him to take the same stand to-morrow when another motion came up.

The committee reported and asked leave to sit again.

Mr. Craig moved for a return showing the number and location of Public Schools in Ontario in which any language other than English is used in the work of teaching, either wholly or in part. A list of text-books in any language other than English used in such schools. The total number of scholars attending each of such schools. The number of text-books in any language other than English.

The number of teachers in such schools who cannot use the English language in teaching. He said there were several blemishes in our Public School system which should be removed. He wished to call attention to one of these blemishes, and not the least of them, Ontario was an English Province, and while French and Germans were welcome, they should submit to the laws and institutions, and should recognize that the English language must prevail. It was known that there were French and German Public Schools in the Province. Two years ago attention was directed to the French schools in a return brought down, but no reference had been made since to the subject. No one, in fact, would know there were French Public Schools in the Province, so far as could be learned from the Minister of Education's report. From the report of Mr. Dufort, the French Inspector of the schools for Prescott and Russell, it appeared there were 65 French schools under his supervision, of which only 21 had some knowledge of English. A return had been brought down of French and German blemishes in the Province, and the Department, in 1884, Mr. Dufort wrote to the Department asking for a reduction in the number of French text-books. The Minister wrote to Mr. Dufort, stating it would be unlikely that examinations in French would be held in several of the schools. In 1885 and 1886 Mr. Dufort wrote again asking for an authorized list of French books for the French schools, admitting that some in use contained tenets of the Roman Catholic Church, but that all kinds of books were allowed. With regard to German, the Globe stated in 1886 that the schools in the German sections were becoming Germanized. A correspondent in reply, however, denied the statement, and said German was rapidly disappearing from the schools. The facts he had presented showed that the situation was serious, and that some remedy should be devised. The question was whether they were willing to

encourage two languages in this Province. He held that the future interests of the Province required that there should be but one language in the country. In Quebec, of course, the French language was allowed by treaty, and this point was, therefore, beyond discussion. In the Indian schools the use of English was insisted upon, and why could not the same rule be adopted in the French schools? In Massachusetts all the schools were English, notwithstanding the large French population. He found on inquiry that the French teachers were of an inferior class, and knew little of the practical use of English. Mr. Laurier, in his Toronto speech on December 11th, 1886, stated that matters must be taken as they are, and that the English language must be the language of the masses. It was to the advantage of the French people to be taught in English, this North American continent being essentially English. He contended that the English language should and must be the language of our Public Schools or disastrous consequences would result.

Mr. G. W. Ross said the hon. gentleman had confined his remarks to Eastern Ontario, although there were French schools in Essex, where the teaching was in the English language in English reading and composition. He failed to find in the old regulations of the old Council of Public Instruction an obligation to teach English in the French schools. This absence of rule allowed purely French schools to multiply. When asked office he inquired as to the number of French schools in which English was not taught and found to his surprise there were many. In 1885 he issued a regulation declaring that English must be taught in every school within his jurisdiction of the department. In the year 1884-5 down showed there were only 27 schools in which English was not taught. In November of the same year that number was reduced to six. In February, 1889, it was officially reported that English was taught in every Public School in Prescott and Russell, and Mr. Dufort confirmed this by reporting that English was taught "more or less" in all of them. It was to be remembered that it was not easy to bring about so sudden a change. The practice in Great Britain in dealing with the Highlands was to allow the Gaelic language and Gaelic inspectors. Surely then we could tolerate the study of French among a few thousand French-Canadians. In Wales, too, the Welsh language was taught, and yet England remained unshaken on her everesting hills. In Nova Scotia there were schools in which nothing but French was taught. The law of Ohio permitted German to be taught in the Public schools when demanded by a certain number of residents. In Louisiana French could be taught, and there were other instances of similar toleration. He (Mr. Ross) had no evidence that the schools of Eastern Ontario were inferior. The number of schools having the entrance examinations from Eastern Ontario was quite up to the average. Inspector Sumner showed that the French schools were not much behind the others. At L'Orignal the difficulty arose out of a national fight, in which the French got the better and forced the Protestants to found a Separate school. As to the book from which his hon. friend read, it did not appear to be a text book at all, but a book containing religious instruction, which it would be remembered was permitted at certain hours in any school in the Province. The Presbyterian catechism could be taken into any school at the hours specified in the regulations by arrangement with the trustees. His hon. friend had therefore not been frank in his statement, because he had led the House to adopt a false inference. His hon. friend could not show that the Roman Catholic catechism was taught in school hours. He dared not make the statement. There was a certain violation of the regulations of the department in the French schools of Eastern Ontario, in that they used French text books not authorized, but books authorized for mixed schools in Quebec. He had obtained text-books in the French language used in the Maritime Provinces, and had sent them to the Central Committee for their report. The prospect was therefore that in a short time they would have French text-books as unauthoritative as were the books used in the ordinary Public Schools. He might mention that with regard to the Separate Schools the Public School series of readers was used in 101 out of 112 schools of Western Ontario; the history of the Public Schools used in 97 Separate Schools, and various other text-books were used in a similar liberal way by the Separate Schools. The policy of this department was that no teachers should be allowed to teach in the Public Schools English as well as French. The department did not pretend to prohibit the teaching of the French or the German languages of the Public Schools. He could not understand this crusade against the French, treating them as an alien race. The country belonged to the French years before the English ever saw it. They established schools in the country 200 years ago. They were the first colonists, and were entitled to their language. There was at present a virus permeating the press of Canada which would never permit the country to cast off its swaddling clothes. Talk of the superiority of the Anglo-Saxon! Why, not one-third of the people dominated by the Anglo-Saxons spoke English, and then talk about abolishing the French in this insignificant country. Why French we speak unkindly of the people who rallied in the defence of this country in its hour of danger. Look at the battles they fought to preserve this country for Britain. If the French-Canadian race decided to have nothing else to do with the other Provinces, Confederation would be smashed to its original fragments.

Mr. Meredith said the subject introduced by the hon. member for Durham was one of the greatest importance to this country. He had placed his case clearly before the House, but the hon. member for Middlesex had sought from beginning to end to make political capital. He had a duty to perform in maintaining the integrity of the English language, and he would follow the dictates of his conscience irrespective of consequences. What he contended was, that if there was ever going to be a nation in Canada, if there was to be a unification of the races, the only manner in which it could be accomplished would be by making English the language of the nation. He well knew that in what he said there was no political capital either for himself or for

his party, but as long as the true interests of his country were in danger, as long as he was a humble member of the House, just so long would he continue to raise his voice on this question. If the result was to drive him from public life, he would bow his head in submission to the will of the people, conscious that he had done his duty to himself and to his country. He contended that all schools receiving State aid should be directly under the control of the State. He believed that some scheme should be devised whereby all the children, irrespective of race or creed, would be taught together. This would do more toward the unification of the nation than all the politics and politicians ever devised. He denied that there was any desire to insult the French; far from it. Neither did he seek to interfere with their religion. He only looked to the interests of his country as a whole. He was satisfied that political capital would be made of what he said. He might have remained silent and allowed the motion to pass without speaking on it. It might have been better for him. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Evanson) had taunted him with the privilege to be accorded him to-day of giving his opinions on the French Canadians. All he would say was this, that whatever other faults he might have he had never been afraid to voice his honest convictions irrespective of whatever influence it might have on his future career.

Mr. Avey moved the adjournment of the debate.

### DID HE SWEAR?

A Story that Loans Hard on a Famous Preacher.

W. W. A. writes as follows in the Cleveland Plain Dealer: At a dinner in Boston one day last week, one of the speakers repeated a story that Oliver Wendell Holmes used to tell. Once upon a time the genial auto-rat went a fishing in the deep, blue sea, somewhere off the coast. He was taken out in a boat by an ancient mariner, of whom he inquired whether any Bostonians had recently been there. "Yes," said the old salt, "your big preacher, Phillips Brooks, was out here with me a little while since." "Indeed," said Mr. Holmes; "what did you think of him?" "He was a fine gentleman," said the old salt, "but he swore very hard for a preacher."

"What?" said Mr. Holmes, "Phillips Brooks swore—you don't mean it?" "Well," returned the toiler of the deep, "I'll tell you how it happened. Mr. Brooks got a bite and his line pulled in so awful hard that I had to take hold and help. It was a haddock, and as I pulled him over the side I says, says I, 'He pulled—hard for a haddock, and Mr. Brooks right off says, 'that's so.' I tell you it just took my breath away." This anecdote set the table in a roar.

### A Serious Affair.

Clara—Oh, mother, we had such fun at the party! Young Smith proposed that he and I should go through a mock marriage ceremony—just in fun, you know; and it was too funny for anything. Afterward, some of the older people who heard of it said we were really married; but we're not, are we?

Doting Mother—Of course not. Besides, young Smith couldn't support a wife if he had one.

Oh, it wasn't that Smith. It was the other Smith from Gold City, the one who owns a bonanza mine, you know.

En? That Smith? My dear, a marriage like that before witnesses is binding.

### Resolution.

Whereas, we are a free and enlightened people, and in duty bound to take the greatest care of the health of the community in general and of ourselves in particular. Therefore, be it

Resolved, that in all cases where we are afflicted with constipation, inactive or diseased liver, biliousness, derangement of the stomach, jaundice and kidney troubles—we will procure Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets and use the same immediately.

### Well Qualified.

Old Lady—My dear, do you really think you are fit to become a minister's wife?

Engaged Niece (from the West)—"Yes, indeed. I don't mind being talked about that at all. I've got the energy of a buffalo bull and the hide of a rhinoceros."

### \$500, or Cure Your Catarrh.

For a long series of years the manufacturers of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy, who are thoroughly responsible, financially, as any one can easily ascertain by proper inquiry, have offered, through nearly every newspaper in the land, a standing reward of \$500 for a case of nasal catarrh, no matter how bad, or of how long standing which they cannot cure. The Remedy is sold by all druggists at only 50 cents. It is mild, soothing, cleansing, deodorizing, antiseptic and healing.

### A Cruel Reply.

Mrs. Youngwife (in a temper)—And did you marry me because you wanted a housekeeper?

Her husband (mildly)—"No, my dear! If I'd wanted a housekeeper I should have married some one who knew how to keep house."

A Baltimore tailor is the father of twenty-five children.

It is believed that Postmaster-General Haigart will drop his proposition to increase the rate of city letters from one to two cents.

### DOWN 12 89

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