ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

Mr. Gibson (Huron) moved for a return of amounts received by county or city treasurers throughout the Province on account of fines imposed for violation of the Scott Act.—Carried.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) moved the second reading of the Bill respecting exemptions from seizure under execution. He said that there was nothing very radical in the extension of exemptions which he proposed, the object being to adapt the old system to the necessities of modern life. For instance, the old exemption law made no provision for the exemption of a sewing machine, which in many houses was now a necessity. The details could be considered by a committee.

The Bill was read the second time and referred to a committee composed of Messrs. Gibson (Hamilton), Hardy, Meredith, Clarke (Wellington), E. F. Clarke, French, Awrey, Evanturel, Wood (Hastings), Chamberlain, Stratton, Guthrie, Metcalfe, Garson, Ingram, Leys, Smith.

Mr. Balfour moved the second reading of a Bill to amend the game laws by allowing spring shooting of all ducks except the mallard, bat and wood duck. He said that in the county of Essex, while the Canadians were debarred from spring shooting, the Americans came in boats, shot all the game they wanted and went back, defying the Canadian officers. He read a letter giving a vivid description of the American pirates and robbers who came over in armed cruisers and insulted and threatened any one who tried to interfere with them. He was willing that the permission to shoot ducks in the spring be confined to the section of the Province where this grievance existed.

Mr. Sprague said he was glad to hear that the member for South Essex was willing to have the Bill applied only to the southwestern part of Ontario. He would be opposed to general spring shooting.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) said he was strongly opposed to opening up the game laws, which were now considered to be the best the Province ever had.

Mr. Balfour, replying to the objections raised against the Bill, said that the law of last session had been secured mainly through the influence of members of the gun clubs, who were a special class and could afford to spend money to send delegates to represent their interest, which the people could not do. He was surprised to see the member for Lincoln (Mr. Garson) championing the views of the special class as against the rights of the people. In view of the feeling manifested against the spearing clause, he would drop it, though he could give reason for having it passed. In Essex the muskrats were very numerous and did great damage to ditches and in other ways. But that was a local question, perhaps, and he would not urge the change. But he saw no reason why the other clauses should not pass, and he hoped that the members who represented the people and not gun clubs would do all they could to have this change in the law made. (Cries of "Order, order").

The House divided on Mr. Garson's amendment in favor of the six months' hoist, which was carried—Yeas, 44: nays, 34.

Hon. O. Mowat, in moving the House nto committee on the whole on the resolution regarding the Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park, said that the Falls of Niagara had for many years been the most attractive place of resort on this continent, and that the interest in them was extending. In a single day they were visited by ten thousand people, and they were visited annually by from 200,000 to 300,000 people. Even before the State of New York took possession of the park the number of visitors was between 100,000 and 200,000 persons. A still more remarkable proof of the general interest in the Falls was afforded by the action of the people of the State of New York. They had lately purchased over 100 acres of land in the neighborhood of the Falls for an International Park, and had paid about $1,500,000 for the land. This was all the more remarkable when it was remembered that the revenues of the State are raised by direct taxation, so that the people, in a State where manhood suffrage prevails, had voluntarily taxed themselves for this amount, in order to restore the scenery about the Falls. All the newspapers and all the parties had supported the movement. It was a no-party movement there, as here. In Ontario, too, there had been no opposition to any step that had been taken; his hon. friends opposite had manifested as much interest in the project as had the Government and its supporters. There was thus every indication that the people were fairly alive to the importance of the duty of preserving the beauty of the natural scenery about the Falls. This was the object of the whole movement. All that was beautiful about the Falls was gradually being destroyed by the artificial means adopted for money-making purposes. The first step taken by the Ontario Government was to endeavor to induce the Dominion Government to undertake the work, and with that view the Legislature passed an Act to give the Dominion Government all the necessary power. Negotiations took place to induce them to undertake the work, and ultimately to induce them to undertake a portion of it. These negotiations were unsuccessful. Although he could not speak with authority he believed that the Ontario members of the Dominion Government favored the project, but the other Ministers did not see the matter in the same light. Thereupon the Ontario Legislature passed an Act with a view to having the matter dealt with within its own jurisdiction. In the preliminary proceedings they had the valuable assistance of three commissioners. The Act provided that the commissioners should have a survey of the property made in order to determine exactly what land it was necessary to include in the Park, and to ascertain by means of a conditional agreement or by arbitration what the land would cost. In consequence of the award not having been completed last session the Bill which was then introduced was withdrawn. It was proposed that the money should be raised by debentures charged on the revenues of the Park with a guarantee by the Province. There was no ground for doubting that the revenues would be amply sufficient to pay all expenses, to pay the interest on the debentures and to provide a sinking fund. The debentures would extend over forty years. The park would be perfectly free, and charges would be made only where guides were needed or where expenditure was required for mechanical appliances, such as inclined planes. It was calculated that a small charge, say fifty cents as a maximum, to those who used these advantages would be sufficient. On the American side a small charge was made for the same purpose. Assuming that 250,000 people visited the Falls annually, it would be necessary for only a third of that number to pay this small charge in order to afford sufficient revenue. The attractions on the Canadian side were much greater than on the other. The award for the land would amount to $400,000; the second head of expenses would be the costs of the arbitrators, and the third would be the cost of the works that would have to be constructed. It was proposed not to make the place a flower garden, but to retain in a state of nature what was in that condition now, to remove unsightly buildings and by planting to restore the sites of these buildings as far as possible to a state of nature, and to remove all obstructions which would prevent people going out and enjoying the sights. They proposed to call the park the Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park.

Hon. Mr. Mowat concluded by moving that the House go into committee on the resolutions.

Mr. Meredith said although this matter had been before the House before the Province was not committed to it. Judging by the report of the commissioners, the intention was to establish this park without laying any burden upon the Province. But there were not sufficient facts before the House to show the members that there was a fair chance of this expectation being realized. In the first place, it was expected to involve an expenditure of $500,000, of which $290,000 was the estimated cost of the property to be appropriated. But it was found that $462,000 would be the cost of the property, and yet only $25,000 was added to the total estimate. As he (Mr. Meredith) understood the locality, all the property between the road and the river was the property of the Crown. In that case he could see no reason for the purchase of some of the property, especially that of Mr. Macklin and Mr. Davis. The Attorney-General estimated that a fee of 50 cents would be sufficient to clear the expenses. But there were not facts before the House to enable members to judge of that, and he threw the responsibility upon gentlemen opposite. He thought $500,000 too large a sum to be expended on this scheme if the Province was to be responsible for the expenditure. With regard to the name, while not yielding to the Premier in his loyalty and devotion to the Sovereign, he would have been quite content, and, indeed, would have preferred, to see the name by which the park must always be known among the people—Niagara Falls Park. He did not oppose the Bill.

Hon. Mr. Mowat said he had not given the estimates of expenditure upon the improvements, thinking they could best be given in Committee of the Whole.

The resolution was carried, and the House went into Committee of the Whole upon the resolutions.

Mr. Meredith asked why it was proposed to endorse securities to be issued by the Commissioners instead of issuing the securities of the Province direct.

Hon. Mr. Mowat said the object was to keep this entirely distinct from the other liabilities of the Province.

The resolutions were carried and a Bill based upon them was introduced and read the first time.

Hon. Mr. Hardy moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole upon the Bill for the Protection of Women in certain cases. He explained that it was to bring within the condemnation of the law a man guilty of seducing a woman who was at the time an inmate of a public institution, thus extending the law, which now prohibits the seduction of lunatic women in the asylums. After some discussion the House went into committee on the Bill and passed and reported it without amendment.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Mowat, the House went into Committee of the Whole on the Bill respecting the revised statutes of Ontario, which was considered and reported.

Hon. G. W. Ross moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Act respecting public schools. He explained that one section provided for a declaration of trustees by the chairman or secretary having charge of the polling. Under the present law a trustee was required to make a declaration after election, which they sometimes failed to do, and a litigious person could put them to some inconvenience. It was proposed also to impose an additional tax on unoccupied lands. These lands were sometimes held for speculative purposes, and it was unfair to the people of the district that they should be relieved from taxation. As the School Law was being consolidated with the others the latest modifications decided upon were now proposed, and he hoped the result would be a School Law which would not need serious alteration for years to come.

Mr. Harcourt referred in terms of commendation to the clause relating to Kindergarten schools. He dwelt upon the great favor into which this system had grown, and was glad to see that it was to be fully recognized in the law of this Province.

Hon. G. W. Ross said that two years ago arrangements had been made in connection with the Normal School for the study of Kindergarten methods, and as a result the Department would be able to send out Kindergarten teachers. They would supply two from the Toronto Normal School and two from that in Ottawa, and from five to ten each year hereafter as might be required. The school in Toronto was in charge of a lady from St. Louis, and the St. Louis system had been adopted.

Mr. Wood's (Hastings) Bill to amend the Railway Act was discussed and reported. The Bill gives power to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council (in the case of any one feeling aggrieved by the proposal of a location of a line of railway) to appoint an engineer to examine the proposed line and hear the parties, after which he may alter or confirm the line through which the road is proposed to run. There is no appeal from the engineer's decision, as the Bill provides that he be a disinterested party.

Mr. Leys' Bill respecting building societies was read a second time and referred to a select committee. The Bill provides that all transfers of debenture stock must be registered at the head office of the society, or at any place in Canada or foreign country the directors may appoint. The last amendment directs that no society shall hold absolutely more than $10,000 worth of real estate at any one place of business, with a provision that no pending suit shall be affected thereby.

Mr. Gibson's (Hamilton) Bill to amend the Ontario Medical Act was read a second time and sent to a select committee. This Bill is of some importance to the medical profession; the first clause of which increases the representation on the Council of the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons by granting the Western University a representative and providing the same for any fully equipped university which may afterwards be created. The profession is protected against malicious prosecutions by enacting that no action shall be taken against any licensed practitioner for malpractice six months after the professional services terminate. The last clauses provide for the erasing of the name from the register of any member of the profession guilty of any gross crime or unprofessional practice, the council having full power to take evidence and give judgment, from which an appeal may be made by the accused to a superior court, but provision is made that no action lies against the council, even if their decision be reversed by the Judge.

Before the reference to the Select Committee the Bill was briefly discussed.

Mr. Clancey's Bill to amend the Registry Act was debated for half an hour and handed over to a select committee after a second reading. This Bill contains one clause prohibiting any land agent registering an instrument in which his remuneration is provided for, and is retroactive in its character.

GASLIGHT.

Ridiculous Ideas that Prevailed When It Was First Introduced.

The first actual application of gas to lighting purposes took place in England in the year 1792, when Mr. William Murdoch constructed an apparatus for lighting his house and office at Redruth, Cornwall. So little was the invention understood and believed in by those who had not seen it in use that even great and wise men laughed at the idea.

"How could there be a light without a wick?" said a member of Parliament when the subject was brought before the House. Sir Humphrey Davy ridiculed the idea of lighting towns by gas, and asked one of the projectors if he meant to take the dome of St. Paul's for a gas meter. When the House of Commons was lighted by gas the architect imagined that the gas ran on fire through the pipes, and, therefore, insisted on their being placed several inches from the wall for fear of the building taking fire. The members might be observed carefully touching the pipes with their gloved hands and wondering why they did not burn. The first shop lighted in London by this new method was Mr. Ackerman's, in the Strand, in 1810, and one lady of rank was so delighted with the brilliancy of the gas lamp on the counter that she asked to be allowed to take it home in her carriage.—*From a London Exchange.*

"While the Lamp Holds Out to Burn."

In the discussion of Mr. Balfour's Bill respecting line fences between farms the prejudice of county and township councils against absentee owners of unoccupied lands was mentioned. It was said that local feeling would utilise the proposed Act to force the fencing of vacant tracts, and thus put an absentee to expense. To us it seems that the local feeling is entirely right and sound. The county and township councils would receive power to levy special taxes on unoccupied tracts if our system of taxation were not radically wrong. The absentees are speculating in the unearned increment, *i. e.*, in the work and outlay of wealth-producing farmers. The value added to vacant land by adjacent settlement goes to reward holders who positively injure the neighborhood. They pocket as speculators a profit which becomes a tax for all time on those who make the land productive. An effective remedy for the grievance of farmers in this respect would be to take all municipal taxes off improvements and put them all on the value of land *minus* improvements. When farmers get their eyes wide open they will combine to impose land taxes in such a way as to destroy land speculation.—*Toronto Globe.*

Applauding in Church.

It is becoming a not unusual occurrence in city churches to applaud the minister when he makes a particularly strong point or discloses some fine thought. In the course of Dr. Ryckman's recent sermon on the license question his remarks elicited quite a few taps of applause; but last night Rev. Louis Beaudry, in the Dundas Street Centre Methodist Church, was actually clapped.—*London Advertiser.*

Teddy's Idea.

Teddy's papa always gets his "shaves" at the barber's shop in town, and so the little boy never had happened to see the operation of shaving gone through with, until grandpa shaved himself; and Teddy watched him for the first time with wide open brown eyes.

All at once he cried out:

"O mamma! mamma! gram'pa's brushing frosting all over his face."

Early Sowing in the Northwest.

Calgary *Tribune*, March 26th: "Ploughing and seeding in the neighborhood of High River commenced last week. This is nearly three weeks later than last year."

"Some people have no teeth and can't get them, while others who don't want them have them thrust upon them," was Smith's remark when a canine tried to take a mouthful of his leg.

Mr. H. H. Hunnewell, a wealthy citizen of Wellesley, Mass., has presented the town with a fire hall, a park of ten acres, and a public library with 6,000 volumes. The value of the gift is $250,000.

While ill on Saturday night Mrs. Ernest Krouse, of Paterson, N. J., shot herself in the head with a revolver, and will probably die. An hour after the shooting the woman gave birth to twins, a boy and a girl, who are doing well.

There is nothing so necessary as necessity; without it, mankind would have ceased to exist ages ago.

If a man is right he can't be too radical; if wrong, he can't be too conservative.

CURRENT TOPICS.

It is said that wrinkles are due to the gradual wearing away of the flesh underneath the skin, because it has too little or the wrong kind of exercise. Wrinkles of the face usually take a downward course, due to washing and wiping the face; therefore, wash and wipe upward. To fill the cheeks that are growing hollow this is recommended: Take a piece of soft leather—kid or chamois skin will do—and put the end of it between the teeth; then chew gently upon it for several minutes taking care not to raise the teeth from the leather. This exercise, it is claimed, will restore to youthful plumpness the most hollow cheek.

It is well known that the great Shakspeare was unhappy in his domestic relations, and escaped from them as much as he could by living nearly all his life in London, while his wife remained at Stratford. This old scandal is now revived, with the addition that Mistress Anne Shakspeare was a very stingy housekeeper, a poor cook and kept a miserable table. Mr. Ignatius Donnelly, of Minnesota, is the resurrectionist who claims to have discovered these important facts in the Bacon cipher story. Perhaps Mistress Anne's chief fault was that she was not her husband's equal. But that she honored his memory is proven by her request that she be buried by his side.

The seven Bibles of the world are the Koran of the Mahommedans, the Eddas of the Scandinavians, the Try Pitikes of the Buddhists, the Five Kings of the Chinese, the Three Vedas of the Hindoos, the Zendavesta and the Scriptures of the Christians. The Koran is not older than the seventh century of our era. The Eddas of the Scandinavians were published in the eleventh century and are the most recent of these seven Bibles. The Pitikes of the Buddhists contain sublime morals and pure aspirations; their author lived and died in the seventh century before Christ. The sacred writings of the Chinese are called the Five Kings, "king" meaning web of cloth or the warp that keeps the threads in their place. They contain the best sayings of the best sages on the ethico-political duties of life. These sayings cannot be traced to a period higher than the eleventh century B.C. The Three Vedas are the most ancient books of the Hindoos, and it is the opinion of Max Muller, Wilson, Johnson and Whitney that they are not older than eleven centuries B.C. The Zendavesta of the Persians is the grandest of all the sacred books next to our Bible. Zoroaster, whose sayings it contains, was born in the twelfth century B.C.

Until the death of the late Bishop, the Bishopric of Jerusalem was jointly under the protection of Prussia and England. According to the terms of the agreement between the two Powers the right to nominate should be alternate. It was Prussia's turn when this last vacation occurred. For various reasons Prussia refused to exercise her right and she has since, with the entire concurrence of England, retired from the compact. It has for some time been known that the Archbishop of Canterbury has made up his mind to continue the Bishopric, and acting in conjunction with the Archbishop of York and the Bishop of London, he has appointed the Venerable Archdeacon Blythe, late of Rangoon, to the vacant see, under the title of "Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem and the East." To make up for the withdrawal of the Prussian Fund, and to bring up the income to £1,500 ($7,500), the Church Missionary Society and the Society for Promoting Christianity Among the Jews have each placed £300 ($1,500) a year at the disposal of the Bishop. In addition to this the Bishop is in receipt of his pension as a retired chaplain of the Indian service. The consecration will take place at Lambeth. The Bishop will have jurisdiction over Egypt, Syria, Bagdad and Cyprus. He will reside at Jerusalem.

Death of Lady Strangford—Her Adventurous Career and Charitable Works.

The death is announced of Emily Anne, Viscountess Strangford. She died at sea while on her way to Egypt. She was the youngest daughter of Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort, K.C.B., and early in life developed a love for adventure. In 1860 she became famous through the publication of two volumes of travel in the East, describing a journey which she and an elder sister undertook for the purpose of exploring Egypt and Syria. The sisters were absent three years. They braved dangers and privations, and both were rewarded for their courage by the recognition they received from eminent scientists. Viscountess Strangford's death deprives the poorer classes in London, Eastern Europe and Egypt of one of their best friends. This accomplished lady, since her husband's death, has devoted herself to the organization and administration of some of the most useful and admirable charities in the world. The Victoria Hospital at Cairo was her latest creation. She gave with open hands and had the secret of making others give. She sacrificed health, abandoned the society which she had adorned, and impaired her fortune all for charity's sake. She died on board the Lusitania in the Mediterranean on her way to Port Said to open a new hospital.

As to Spring.

Ethereal spring has sprung: A few patches of snow still linger in the upper canyons, but the hillsides are spangled with buttercups and violets, and the sheep are frisking several frisks on the green turf of a thousand hills.—*Heppner (Oregon) Gazette.*

Seven years ago Henry Whittaker, of Syracuse, N. Y., was divorced from his wife, the mother of five children. He then married a widow, who had seven children by him. She died, and Whittaker entered into correspondence with his first wife, who was in England, effected a reconciliation, brought her over here, and married her again.

A Pennsylvania farmer who blew out the gas in a Chester hotel noticed just as the flame was extinguished a little green tag attached to the burner. He got into bed, but his curiosity to know what was on that tag led him to get up again, light the gas, and look. He saw printed on the tag: "Do not blow out the gas, or it will cause immediate death."

By the will of the late Alexander Adam, paper manufacturer, of Aberdeen, the Sustentation Fund of the Free Church of Scotland benefits to the amount of $50,000.

ANTIDOTE FOR CANCER.

A Remedy Within the Reach of All.

(From the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.)

About thirty years ago a woman belonging to the middle walks of life, suffering with cancer, was pronounced beyond their skill by the physicians of Shrewsbury Infirmary, England, the tumor being in such close proximity to the jugular vein that, rather than risk the imperiling of her life, they deemed it best not to undertake so grave an operation. Straightway after this announcement was made she returned to her home, which was three miles from Oswestey, the nearest railway station in the county of Montgomery, North Wales. Here she became a greater sufferer, when one day she bethought herself of a neighbor, whom she soon found, and with all the eloquence of one enthralled by an implacable foe she appealed to her sympathy. "If it were possible," she implored, "do, do something to assuage my pain." With that tenderness and willingness characteristic of every true and noble woman to allay her sister's many pains this friend, for she proved a friend in need and deed, forthwith sent her boys (one of whom is our informant) to gather what in the United States is known as sheep sorrel; by the people of England as "sour leaf or the cuckoo plant;" in the Welsh language, to the people of North Wales, as "dall surionny gog." To this timely opportunity, and the efficacy of this herb as an antidote for cancer, this our sufferer is in a large measure indebted for her health and life to-day, while not the slightest vestige of this hitherto unconquerable disease is to be found. The leaves were wrapped in brown paper so tight as to make the package impervious to air. This package was then placed beneath an open grate covered with the hot ashes of the same. When sufficiently cooked it was removed, and in as hot a state as possible and not burn, it was now applied, the leaves being in direct contact with the ulcer, which was firmly held to the part affected by a linen handkerchief. Strange to say, at the expiration of one month the tumor came away and has not since appeared. For the first four days the pain was most excruciating, but gradually decreased as it became loosened. There is much to be said in favor of this method over that of the knife. The nature of its drawing power in the form of poultice, though at first very severe, still is gradual and sure, while new blood rushes into the vacuum, caused by removal, thus serving as a fitting helpmeet for aiding and stimulating nature's efforts, and in the meantime the arteries which feed this fell destroyer are given a greater impulse to move rapidly, flow healthy and strengthening the weaker parts as fast as it egresses. In this connection it is to be observed that this method has none of the accompanying after-weakening effect, as caused by loss of blood so frequently exhibited under the operation of the knife, while the chances of a thorough extirpation are far more sanguine as to a thread remaining than that of a surgical operation, which many fear and object to. For those parts not admitting of poultice we submit another formula for the same herb, as applied by this same benefactress in somewhat different cases.

A piece of flat iron or steel is obtained with at least one bright and smooth face. On this the leaves are placed, which in turn is placed on top of the stove or within the oven until the leaves are thoroughly cooked, whence they are removed and spread on a piece of linen in the same way as any other home-made plaster. When cool enough, with sufficient heat not to burn, it is then applied, and, our informant states, was productive of the same beneficent result.

Sympathy for Hackmen.

"We hackmen never get any sympathy from the public," said a local cab driver to me the other evening. "People seldom stop to think of what we are obliged to put up with. They just put us down as a lot of sharks and let it go at that, but if they had a week at cab driving I guess they wouldn't be in such a hurry to say the hard things against us they do now. Cab driving ain't any picnic and don't you forget it. I have worked many a time for twenty-four hours at a stretch without sleep, to say nothing of being half frozen to death into the bargain. Then we have some pretty tough times with our fares now and then. I have had men keep me out all night and then refuse to pay me a cent, threatening to knock me down, and even going so far as to smash the cab windows when I attempted to assert my rights. You never know when you are striking a drinking crowd, and you cannot refuse to drive them from one saloon to another until they become so drunk that they either spend all their money or will not pay up until you call a policeman. I tell you, my friend, cab drivers could relate some pretty lively stories if they wished to, and they are not the worst natured fellows in the world if you treat them right."—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

The Judge's First Charge.

A justice's first charge. He said: "Gentlemen of the jury, charging a jury is new business to me, and this is my first case. You have heard the evidence as well as myself. You have also heard what the learned counsel have said. If you believe what the counsel for the plaintiff has told you your verdict will be for the plaintiff; but if, on the other hand, you believe what the defendant's counsel has told you, then you will give a verdict for the defendant. But if you are like me and don't believe what either of them has said, then I'll be hanged if I know what you will do. Constable, take charge of the jury."

During the flood at Bismarck, Dak., the other day, a big cake of ice went down the roaring Missouri, and on the ice was a big black bear.

Rev. Chas. H. Ward, of Englewood, N.J., who attempted to kill his wife and wounded himself, has resigned the rectorship of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

It is said of a great man, just dead, that "he began life a barefooted boy." Come to think, we boys all began that way.

It is the little things that are the most wonderful and difficult; it is possible for human enterprise to make a mountain, but impossible for it to make an oyster.

Nothing goes so fast as time, so they say; and yet there are plenty of men who find no trouble in passing it.