THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE

Opened With the Lieut.-Governor's Speech From the Throne

THE TOPICS TOUCHED UPON.

Western Provincial Boundaries—Accounts With the Dominion—The Agricultural Situation—French in the Schools—Rainy River Settlement—Our Great Mineral Wealth—Looking After the Lunatics and Helpless Poor—Legislation Foreshadowed.

TORONTO,—The Ontario Legislature was opened at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon by Lieut.-Governor Campbell, who read the following Speech from the Throne:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly

It is with much pleasure that I again meet you, assembled for the discharge of the important duties which devolve upon you as the people's representatives in the Provincial Legislature. I have special satisfaction in congratulating you on the passing of an Act by the Imperial Parliament, since your last session, confirming and giving effect to the decision of Her Majesty's Privy Council in August, 1884, respecting the

WESTERLY BOUNDARY OF THE PROVINCE,

and finally settling the northerly boundary as well as the westerly in substantial accordance with the award of the arbitrators in 1878. The people of Ontario cannot but experience a feeling of relief that we have at last reached the final stage of this long protracted dispute between the Province and the Dominion, and that the territorial limits claimed by the Province have been definitely secured for all time.

DOMINION AND PROVINCIAL ACCOUNTS.

I regret that owing to the attitude of the Dominion with respect to the question of interest there now appears little probability of settlement of accounts between the two Governments being arrived at through negotiation, and proposals have accordingly been made on the part of the Province to refer to arbitration the points in dispute. The correspondence on the subject will be laid before you. It is also a matter of disappointment that the Quebec Government declines to concur in any arrangement for settling our differences as to the Land Improvement Fund, and steps have in consequence been taken to have them settled through the courts.

THE FARMERS NOT PROSPEROUS.

I regret that the agricultural industry, the most important in the Province, is still in a depressed condition. Untoward climatic conditions in extensive sections of the Province blighted the hopes that were entertained in the early portion of the year of an abundant harvest. This, with the continued low prices of cereals and other causes, has tended to prevent that improvement in the condition of those engaged in this industry which had been hoped for. It is pleasing to note, however, that in the manufacture of cheese, our great agricultural staple, Ontario holds a foremost place, the product of Ontario ranking in point of quality among the best offered on the English market, and the Dominion trade tables showing that the yearly value of cheese exports, which are chiefly from Ontario, is far in excess of the aggregate value of all the manufactures exported by the Dominion. I rejoice to know that in every branch of agriculture, our farmers are evincing a growing appreciation of intelligent methods, and the continued success of farmers' institutes is one of the evidences of a strongly prevailing desire to profit by practical information on economic husbandry.

ACTION ON THE SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

It having been alleged that the regulations of the Education Department requiring instruction in English to be given in all the public schools of the Province were not observed in certain localities in which the French language prevails, commissioners were appointed to visit these schools, to report on the facts and to consider in what way the study of English might be most successfully promoted among the pupils whose mother tongue is French. The same commissioners were afterwards directed to visit the German schools of the Province and to report in like manner regarding them. Their reports will be submitted to you, as well as certain regulations for giving practical effect to the recommendations of the commissioners, so far as this could be done by immediate executive action. You will be asked to make the grant which is necessary for the establishment of a training school in Eastern Ontario, as recommended by the commissioners.

OUR NORTHERN TERRITORY.

It affords me pleasure to state that the revenue derived from the timber dues and the sale of Crown lands considerably exceeds the estimate submitted to the assembly last session. In February last I issued my proclamation declaring in force the "Rainy River Free Grants and Homesteads Act," and at a later period of the year I approved of an Order-in-Council appropriating under the Act twenty townships in that district for the purpose of free grants. I also issued a commission to take evidence and report upon the claims of settlers along the Rainy River. The commissioners examined into and took evidence respecting numerous claims, and patents are being issued to such settlers as have performed the conditions of settlement. A commission was also issued to investigate disputed claims to mining and other locations in Rat Portage and the territory contiguous thereto. Many claims were inquired into and much evidence was taken and patents are being issued to applicants who have established their claims and complied with the conditions of sale.

ONTARIO'S MINERAL WEALTH.

The public interest in the mineral wealth of the province continues to increase. The immense deposits of silver, iron, copper and nickel recently discovered or developed have attracted the attention of capitalists and others interested in mining in Europe and America. As a result large investments are being made in developing our mineral resources, and both capital and labor are finding remunerative employment in that connection. Measures relating to the sale of mining locations and to regulate mining operations will be presented for your consideration.

PROVIDING FOR LUNATICS.

I am glad to know that the completion of two of the asylum cottages at Mimico, together with enlarged accommodation at the London asylum, have permitted the removal of all those lunatics temporarily confined in the jails of the province who have been certified to be proper subjects for asylum treatment. Six cottages, providing further accommodation for 350 patients, are in course of construction, and will probably be completed during the present year.

COUNTY POOR HOUSES.

Public attention has of late years been directed to the inadequate provision by county municipalities for the care and support of the aged, helpless and poor within their boundaries, only nine counties having yet availed themselves of the provisions of law authorizing the establishment of industrial farms and houses of industry and refuge in connection therewith. Organized philanthropy in the larger centres of population has provided institutions for the care of such persons in these localities, and Provincial aid to many of these institutions has been extended under our Charity Aid Act. With a view to encouraging the erection of county houses of refuge in connection with industrial farms and of thereby relieving the jails of this unfortunate class of their inmates, a measure will be submitted for your consideration, providing for a grant from Provincial funds of a sum not exceeding $4,000 towards the cost in every county or union of counties availing itself of the Act, the grant to be subject to such conditions as you may deem fitting. The Bill will also provide for the case of counties which have already established a house of refuge.

TAXATION LEGISLATION PROMISED.

Your attention will be invited to the consideration of changes in the law relating to the assessment of property for municipal taxation. Steps have been taken to procure a general expression of opinion from the various Municipal Councils and Boards of Trade throughout the Province on the vexed question of exemptions from local assessment, and a measure on this subject will be submitted which will, I trust, meet with your approval.

OTHER MEASURES PROMISED.

Among other measures there will also be submitted for your consideration a bill to facilitate the speedy determination of important constitutional questions, a bill for the further improvement of the liquor license laws, and a bill relating to the license of cullers and the measurement of sawlogs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

The public accounts for the past year will be promptly laid before you. You will be pleased to learn that the expenditure has been kept within the amount granted, and that the revenue has exceeded the amount anticipated.

ESTIMATES.

The estimates for the current year will, at an early date, be presented for your approval. They will be found to be framed with a due regard to economy and the necessities of the public service.

I feel assured that your deliberations will, as hitherto, be characterized by wisdom and patriotism, and will conduce to the happiness and prosperity of the people.

The address was then, with the usual formality, ordered to be engrossed and presented to His Honor the Lieut.-Governor.

When Dancing is Wrong.

If you are wise, if you hope that the future holds much for you, you will learn to be particular as to your partner in dancing. Dance with no man with whom you have only a ball-room acquaintance, and if you are really anxious to gain the respect of the people in your own set, you will number among partners only your brothers, or some very intimate friends.

It's all very well to say there is no harm in dancing. There isn't. But there is harm in having about you, a sweet pure girl, kept as much as possible from the wickedness of the world, the arm of a man who may be profligate, and not possess the first instinct of a gentleman. He may, as you say, dance divinely, but even for a partner in a round dance, more than that is necessary. My little girl, dancing indiscriminately will teach you to forget how to blush, and with that knowledge departs one of your greatest charms. Dance, sing and be merry, but remember, not only, does the world judge us by the company we keep, but just as you and I are made better and nobler by being with those who are true and good, so we are insensibly made meaner and poorer in heart and brain when we consort with those of less degree in morals.—*Ladies' Home Journal.*

What He Might Do.

An enterprising young man with a turn for statistics might do a nice stroke of business at the present time. He might buy himself a notebook and make a list of all the men in his town who stop smoking because business is dull. Along with them he might put those who stop using liquor in any form because money is scarce. The number who stopped dancing or playing cards because the times are hard might also be given. One page of a very small notebook will be quite large enough for all the names.—*Canada Presbyterian.*

No Wonder She Was Surprised.

"Mr. Jaysmith," remarked that gentleman's mother-in-law as she entered the office and drew up a chair, "my daughter was surprised and grieved at the condition you went home in last night, or rather early this morning."

"Yes," replied Jaysmith, cheerfully. "She didn't know I was loaded."

Only a Substitute.

Mrs. Gofrequent (making a call)—I quite envy you your little boy, Mrs. Flyabout. He looked so manly sitting beside you yesterday, when you were out driving.

Mrs. Flyabout (with a sigh)—Yes, I had to take Johnny yesterday. Dear little Fido was sick.

A Suggestive Name.

George—What is your favorite pet name for your father, Louise?

Louise (looking at George in a most pathetic and appealing manner)—Pop! (They are now engaged.)

Briefly Stated.

Irate Dude—See here, tailor, you've made these trousers big enough for a cow!

Polite Tailor—Oh, no; just large enough for two calves!

In a Breach of Promise Case.

The Court—What is your age, madam?

The plaintiff—Must I answer?

The Court—You must.

Plaintiff—Why, Judge, I thought people didn't have to testify against themselves.

Must Draw the Line Somewhere.

"Sensational journalism" has so defied public sentiment that a strong reaction is setting against it, and individuals are beginning to declare that they have rights which even newspapers are bound to respect.—*Buffalo Commerical.*

Why They Do Not Speak.

Miss Hauteur—I am going to the De Trow's ball to-morrow night.

Miss Pert (who has not received an invitation)—Indeed? Whom do you chaperon?

Positive?

"John, thieves are in the house."

"No," returned John, wearily; "there may be thieves in the Senate, but none in the House."

Hon. Senator Macdonald's condition is critical.

—A glove with a pocket in it is the latest invention for ladies. But it is necessary for the sex to lose something, and therefore they will carry a pocket book without a pocket in it.

The Traction Company has discharged its union men at Pittsburg and reduced wages from $2.50 for a ten-hour day to $2.25 for eleven and one-half hours.

Rogers' clothing store, of New York, took all its employees to the theatre, gave them a banquet, and announced a dividend of 5 per cent. on each employee's pay for the year.

An order-in-council has been received from Ottawa by the Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec, from the Federal Government, in relation to the land slide sufferers' claim, in which it is stated that the Government disclaims all responsibility for the damages caused by the rock slide in Champlain street, because the slide was the result of natural causes.

A NEWFOUNDLAND HORROR.

Father and Three Children Devoured by Flames.

A Halifax, N. S., despatch says: Details of a terrible affair were received to-day from St. John's, Nfld., four lives being lost by the burning of a dwelling house. The victims were John Gorley and his three children—two girls and a boy—aged respectively 6, 8 and 15 years. The fire broke out at midnight in the lower part of the house. Daniel Mulrooney, a fireman, hearing the alarm, ran to the scene with a ladder, and met Gorley outside the house. Gorley said that his six children were in the attic, and throwing of his coat and hat dashed into the burning house, despite the warning shouts of Mulrooney. A few minutes later he appeared at the attic window, and Mulrooney, raising his ladder, mounted to the rescue. In the meantime Gorley's wife had reached the street. Gorley passed three of the children out of the window to Mulrooney, who assisted them to the sidewalk. By this time smoke was pouring out of the window in dense volumes, and when Mulrooney turned to receive the fourth child he could not see Gorley. He plunged his body half through the window, reached out his arm and touched Gorley, but he fell forward with a scream and disappeared. The heroic fireman could discern one of the remaining children tangled in an iron bedstead, but was powerless to reach it. The bodies of the four victims were recovered horribly burned. The cause of the fire is unknown. Gorley went to St. Johns from Montreal, and was 35 or 36 years old.

Gladstone's Chronology.

1809—Dec. 29th, born in Liverpool.
1831—Graduated at Oxford.
1832—Entered Parliament.
1834—Junior Lord of the Treasury.
1835—Under Colonial Secretary.
—Resigned.
1838—Married.
1839—"The State in Relation to the Church."
1840—"Church Principles Considered."
1841—Vice-President of the Board of Trade.
1842—Revised the tariff.
1843—President of the Board of Trade.
1845—Resigned.
—Colonial Secretary.
1846—Resigned.
1847—Advocated freedom of Jews.
1852—Chancellor of the Exchequer.
1855—Resigned.
1858—Lord High Commissioner to the Ionian Isles.
—"Studies of the Homeric Age."
1859—Chancellor of the Exchequer.
1865—Leader of the Commons.
1866—In Oppositon.
1868—Prime Minister.
—"Ecce Homo."
—"A Chapter of Autobiography."
1869—Carried Irish disestablishment.
—"Juventus Mundi."
1870—Carried Irish Land Bill.
1871—Unveiling of his statue in his native city.
—Abolished purchase of army commissions.
—Abolished confiscation in penal laws.
1873—Irish university reforms proposed.
—Resigned, but resumed power.
1874—Dissolved Parliament.
1876—"Homer Synchronism."
1879—Mid-Lothian triumph.
—"Gleanings of Past Years."
1880—Prime Minister again.
1885—Resigned.
1886—Prime Minister.
—Irish home rule proposed.
—Resigned.—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch.*

What They Will Wear in the Spring.

At last there is to be a change in gentleman's apparel, according to the leading New York artist. The Prince Albert is coming in and it is coming in with a rush. Grover Cleveland now will be in fashion. The one thing that annoyed him and made his heart heavy was the fact that he could not wear a four-button cutaway, and he is not the only fat man whose heart has ached. The very latest for spring is the Prince Albert. They are made in rough goods, dead finished. Fine corkscrews, wide and narrow Wales, and grays will probably be the fad. All the dudes except Berry Wall, and Berry is not buying any clothes now, are being measured for Prince Alberts. The Prince Albert gives them a Parliamentary air, don't you know, and as the young men now are affecting politics this gives a distinction that they would not get in a four-button cutaway or a short sack.

A Hopeless Case.

First Officer—What's wrong wid him Jimmy? Can't yer lift him?

Second Officer—Not a hair can I move him.

Party Who Has Fallen—It's no use, gentlemen; you might as well leave me. I've been at the Girls' Normal Cooking School dinner, and I ate four amateur doughnuts.

The Master Painters' and Decorators' Union of New York State has decided that the apprentice's pay for the first year shall be $5 per week; for the second year, $7 per week; for the third year, $9 per week; for the fourth year, $11 per week, and for the fifth year, $13 per week.

—Adam Forepaugh was an illiterate man, but he never smoked nor chewed tobacco, nor did he use intoxicating liquors. He was a lover of animals.

Miss Nita Shakespeare will be queen of the carnival at New Orleans this year. She is the daughter of the Mayor of that city.

—Mrs. Harrison tells an interviewer "Instead of making 22 the proper age to marry I should make it 25. As a rule a woman is married two thirds of her life, and she can easily lend two or three out of those years to what ought to be a happy period with every girl, the years between school days and marriage."

The Newport News, Va., ship-yard is nearly ready to begin work. It is the largest in America, and has a water front of 1,600 feet. Henry Louitsky, formerly of Cramps', is superintendent of construction.

—The Queen of England's granddaughter, the Duchess of Fife, has turned out to be one of the most democratic young persons in Great Britain. She wanders about the streets with her husband, looking into the shop windows, and when she goes to the threatre she sits with the commoners and roars at the fun.

—There are some women so talkative that nothing but the toothache will make them hold their jaws.

Mr. E. G. Conklin has been appointed Clerk of the Local Legislature in place of Mr. C. Sadleir, who resigned some time ago.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Wallace introduced a bill to incorporate the Grand Orange Lodge of British America.

Mr. Carling, in reply to Mr. Cimon, said the Government was considering the advisability of establishing an experimental dairy in connection with the Experimental Farm.

Mr. Charlton announced that the promoters of the three bills on reciprocity in wrecking had agreed to let them stand till Thursday next, if the Government would agree to make them the first order of the day.

Mr. Foster laid on the table of the House the estimates for the year ending June 31st, 1891.

The estimates were referred to the Committee of Supply.

Mr. Bain, (Wentworth), in asking for returns, said that the correspondence as to the ownership of the Waterloo and Dundas Road had been going on since 1885. Owing to the unsettled state of the ownership the road was in a very bad state and people had to pay toll at four gates. For the five years the matter had been in dispute people had been compelled to carry on systematic warfare against the present holder, in order to compel him to keep it in some sort of condition. It was a serious local irritation to be forced to pay toll for a road that was thus neglected. He hoped the Minister would try and urge on his department and get this matter settled.

Sir Hector Langevin said the question was whether the road belonged to the Government of Canada or the Government of Ontario. This had been a difficult matter to look into. Searches had now been completed and the papers would shortly be laid before the Minister of Justice for his opinion.

Mr. Wilson (Elgin), in moving for papers respecting the proposal to convert Kettle creek into a canal between St. Thomas and Port Stanley, said he could hardly conceive that anyone was foolish enough to conceive such a project practicable. He understood that the engineers found that this canal would have to be 300 feet deep at St. Thomas. That, of course, would be a difficulty, but the ingenious Minister of Public Works might be able to overcome it. Then there was a scarcity of water in Kettle creek, and it would either have to be brought from the Thames by boring twenty miles or from the lake. What was to be gained by a canal from St. Thomas to Port Stanley? There was no traffic between the places and the proposition was absurd, and he was surprised that the Minister of Public Works should be so far deceived as to send his engineers to survey the route of the canal.

Mr. Casey said that it was possible with the expenditure of half a million of dollars to make Kettle creek navigable, but only for fish. (Laughter).

The motion for the papers was carried.

Mr Wilson (Elgin), in moving for the returns as to the tolls collected at Port Stanley, drew attention to the neglected state of the harbor. The Minister was dealing unfairly by these people, and the trade was being forced off the lakes. The result was that Port Stanley was degenerating. It was true that the harbor had been handed over to the London & Port Stanley Railway, but it was the duty of the Government to force the railway to attend to this port.

Mr. Casey thought that the Government should make an appropriation to put this port in repair.

Mr. White (Renfrew), on motion for returns, called attention to a case of hardship which had occurred in connection with the robbery of the post office at Pembroke on the night of the 18th of April last. The post office was broken into and registered letters containing $2,000, as far as could be ascertained, were stolen. Many persons who had lost the money could ill-afford it, and he hoped if it was possible to reimburse them the Government would do so.

Mr. Haggart said the invariable rule laid down in the United States, England and most countries where there were similar systems to ours, was not to reimburse for such losses. A departure from this rule would lead to great trouble. He had every sympathy with the sufferers, and had no objection to the returns being brought down.

The motion was carried.

Sir Richard Cartwright called attention to the fact that the Public Accounts Committee had not been called.

Mr. Foster—It will be called as early as possible.

Mr. Laurier—But the Prime Minister said it would be called for to-day.

Mr. Foster—There are three days' grace.

Mr. Charlton, in moving the first reading of the bill to amend the Dominion Election Act, said the object was to provide against promises made by candidates of the Government of expenditure in their riding. Another object was to provide that the Government should not expend money for the purpose of influencing elections. This was one of the most fruitful sources of corruption at the present day.

Sir John Macdonald—You should include promises from all quarters.

The bill was read a first time.

Mr. McCarthy—I would like to ask if it would not be convenient for a day to be set for the second reading of the bill against my name. I have consulted the First Minister and he has suggested Wednesday week, if it would be convenient, Wednesday, the 12th.

Sir John Macdonald—I think that would be convenient. This subject is of very general interest to the House, and it would be well to have a day fixed. Wednesday, the 12th, would be convenient, but I would like first to hear from the other side.

Mr. Laurier—As far as this side is concerned, we will agree to this arrangement.

Sir Richard Cartwright said it was premature to ask what day the Budget would be brought down, but he supposed it was safe to presume it would not be brought down next week.

Mr. Foster—Not next week nor the following week.

The House went into Committee of Supply.

Mr. McMullen, on the item for printing and stationery, said that it appeared that printing was more costly than ever, and that instead of the saving that the Secretary of State had promised, there would be a loss to the country in consequence of the establishment of the bureau.

Mr. Chapleau said that when the Printing Bureau was fully completed, he believed the economy which he promised would be realized. He hoped this would be the case, and if it was not it would not be his fault.

Mr. Somerville said he understood that the Secretary of State had admitted to the printers that the present arrangement cost more than the old system.

Mr. Chapleau replied that all he had said was that the printing had cost more than he had anticipated on account of the unfinished state of the building, which compelled them to run two establishments at once.

Under head of Dominion Lands, Sir Richard Cartwright pointed out that there was a large discrepancy between the receipts and expenditure of this department. It had cost $400,000 to collect $230,000. The probability of $58 300,000 being realized from Dominion lands by 1891, which was promised by Sir Charles Tupper, was becoming more remote.

Mr. Dewdney said he was effecting a saving of $13,000 this year in this department. He had a scheme whereby he hoped soon to make the service much less expensive.

Sir Richard Cartwright asked for an explanation as to the increase of $1,500 in the salary of Chief Engineer Page, making it $6,000.

Sir John Macdonald explained that the improvement of the canal system and the building of the Sault Ste. Marie canal were on Mr. Page's shoulders, and his duties had largely increased.

Mr. Wilson (Elgin) said he was not satisfied with this explanation. It was a very strange thing that an official who had an indictment hanging over his head from one of the Government supporters should receive such an increase.

Sir John Macdonald—That's another page altogether in his history.

The item passed and the committee rose.

Oneida Community.

The annual report of the Oneida Community, limited, just filed with the Secretary of State, gives the valuation of the land, buildings and water power devoted to manufactures at $147,230; the goods, stock, machinery, etc., at $432,164.11, making a total valuation on manufactures of $579,391 11. The land and buildings devoted to agriculture are placed at $63,690, and the implements, stock, produce, etc., at $6,339.16, or $70,029 16 devoted to agriculture. Besides this they have rents amounting to $90,000, personal property to the value of $9,086, $18,202 20 in cash, $332 82 in good mortgage, $1,800 in Community stock held by the company, $11,895 42 in bills receivable, $137,105.20 in accounts receivable, making a grand total to the credit of the Community of $917,814 91.

Quandary of a Religious Editor.

A correspondent calls our attention to an advertisement, the nature of which, he surmises, "must have been overlooked," and says: "While the discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church is opposed to, and her ministers preach against, parlor and other kinds of dancing, it does look a little inconsistent for a Methodist paper to have an advertisement in it showing people where to purchase jig, waltz, polka and reel music." The point is well taken; but how are we to serve those ministers whose children are learning to play jig, waltz, polka and reel music and want to know where to find the best of that sort of thing?—*Northern Christian Advocate.*

Art Education in New York.

"Have you been to see 'The Angelus yet?" asked one person of another in the hearing of the passengers on an elevated train the other day.

"No," was the reply; "I've been away from the city almost almost all this winter and I haven't been to the theatre at all."

And then he wondered why everybody near him in the car seemed to have just remembered a funny story.—*New York Sun.*

She Took Her Time.

The following quaint epitaph on husband and wife—the husband having died first—is to be seen in one of the Parisian cemeteries: "I am anxiously awaiting you—A. D. 1827." "Here I am—A. D. 1867." The good lady had taken her time about it.—*Medical Classics.*

A Mitigating Circumstance.

Customer—You charge too much for your meat. You charge 50 cents for your beefsteaks, while your rival over the way only asks a quarter.

Butcher—Maybe so, but then you see he don't have as much profit as I have. You must take that into consideration.

A True Gentleman.

"What is your idea of a gentleman, Yellowly?"

"A true gentleman always laughs at the joke of a story, and never says that he heard it before."

By Proxy.

Husband—Where is my wife, Anna?

Maid—She's just gone upstairs, sir.

Husband—Well, just give her this kiss, dear—I have to catch a train in five minutes and can't wait.

Bud With a Thorn in It.

"How much older is your elder sister than you?"

"I don't know. She loses a year annually. I expect we shall be twins before long."

Home Mission Work.

Maud—Why in the world did you accept Mr. Donothing?

Helene—Oh, he's such a fool some one has got to take care of him, and as I'm rich I suppose it might as well be I.

The Hebrew employers of labor in Philadelphia have given warning to all Hebrews in their employ who entertain atheistic or anarchistic ideas that they must either give up their membership in associations that advocate such principles or seek employment elsewhere.

—The late Adam Forepaugh used to say: "I have a boy, and Barnum has none. My show will outlast his."

The clergy of Belleville are agitating for a reduction of tavern licenses by five.