

Legislature of Ontario.

TUESDAY, Feb. 11.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

PETITIONS.

The following petitions were presented:—

By Mr. Matchett—From inhabitants of the Township of Emily, praying that no charter be granted to the Licensed Victuallers.

By Mr. Haynes—From inhabitants of the Township of Howick, with the same prayer.

By Mr. McColl—From the County Council of Norfolk, praying the extension of the Erie and Niagara Railway.]

By Mr. Clark—From inhabitants of Prescott, praying the establishment of an Ophthalmic Hospital.

By Mr. McGill—From inhabitants of Whitby, in support of the petition that the limits of the town be reduced.

By Mr. Grahame—From inhabitants of Newtownbrook, praying amendments in the Municipal Act.

By Hon. Mr. McMurrich—From W. Harding and others of Holland Landing, praying amendments in the Municipal Act.

By Hon. Mr. Cameron—From the Hon. W. H. Draper, C. B., and others rate-payers of Toronto, praying that an inquiry into the working of the Common School system in cities and towns may be made, with a view to increasing its usefulness and extending its advantages to a class of children not now reached.

BUTTER AND CHEESE MANUFACTURERS.

Mr. OLIVER, from the Committee on the Bill for the protection of Butter and Cheese Manufacturers, reported the same with amendments.

SOUTH HURON ELECTION.

Sir HENRY SMITH, from the General Committee on Elections, reported the following as the Committee chosen to try and determine the complaint of an undue election and return for the South Riding of Huron—Messrs. Clark (Chairman), Gow, Grahame (York), McDougall, and Craig (Russell).

THIRD READINGS.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed:—

To authorize the Crescent Petroleum Company to hold and dispose of certain lands.—Mr. Pardee.

To extend the powers of the Gore District Insurance Company.—Mr. Clemens.

INTERPRETATION OF STATUTES.

On motion of Hon. J. S. McDONALD,

The house went into Committee—Mr. McLeod in the chair—on the Bill respecting the Interpretation of the Statutes. The first clause, providing that the enacting clause of Bills, shall be in this form: "Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, enacts"—was agreed to.

The fourth clause was amended by striking out "in the name of Her Majesty," with reference to the assent given by the Lieutenant-Governor to Bills, and was agreed to.

In some other clauses the word "Royal" before the word "Assent," was struck out. In other clauses, the designation "The Queen's Printer," was substituted for "Her Majesty's Printer."

The Committee having reported, the amendments were concurred in, and the Bill ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

PRISONS AND ASYLUMS.

On motion of Hon. J. S. McDONALD,

The house concurred in the resolutions reported from the Committee of the Whole, respecting the inspection of Prisons and Asylums.

OVERHOLDING TENANTS.

On motion of Hon. Mr. WOOD,

The house went into Committee of the Whole on the Bill respecting Overholding Tenants.—Mr. Beatty in the chair.

After a short discussion, the committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Friday.

REGISTRARS' BILL.

Hon. J. S. McDONALD rose to move the second reading of the Bill relating to Registrars, &c. (Cries of "postpone," "withdraw," "next session").

Mr. LOUNT—We want time to hear from the different Registrars.

Mr. RYKER—Let it stand till next session.

Hon. J. S. McDONALD—No! No! Mr. Speaker, I beg to move. (Cries of drop! drop!)

Mr. SCOTT (Ottawa) said there was an important document, in justification of the conduct of Mr. Hammond, the Registrar of Bruce, which he understood was not being printed with the other papers.

Hon. J. S. McDONALD—We got from Ottawa all the papers asked for by the address, and they were all ordered to be printed.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON—What is the document?

Mr. SCOTT—It is a memorial signed by eighteen of the Reeves of the district.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON—It is not among the papers that have been transmitted to us.

Mr. HAYS—I can give the Secretary a copy of it.

The motion for the second reading was then postponed.

Mr. SEXTON moved the second reading of the Bill (No. 77) relating to Registrars.

Mr. McKELLAR—Surely this Bill ought not to take precedence of the Attorney-General's on the same subject.

Hon. J. S. McDONALD said it had a special reference, but perhaps it might be as well to allow it to stand.

Sir HENRY SMITH—I would advise the hon. gentleman who has charge of the Bill not to tack it on the Attorney-General's, for, if he does, he will certainly lose it. (Laughter).

Mr. SEXTON thought there was no reason why his Bill should be delayed.

The Bill was then read a second time at length, and ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

DENTISTRY.

Mr. BOULTER moved the second reading of his Bill relating to Dentistry.

Sir HENRY SMITH said he believed there was a necessity that the public should be protected by an Act incorporating the gentlemen qualified to act as Dentists. He thought, however, the title given them of "Royal College" was going too far.

Hon. J. S. McDONALD—That may be altered in committee.

The Bill was then read a second time and referred to a committee consisting of Dr. McGill, Dr. Baxter, Sir Henry Smith, Messrs. Blake, McCall (Norfolk), Eyre and the mover.

OFFICE OF SHERIFF.

Mr. EYRE moved the second reading of the Bill (No. 86,) to amend the Act respecting the office of Sheriff. He explained that the object of the Bill was to provide that, in case of the death, removal or resignation of a Sheriff, the books, papers, moneys, &c., which had been under his control as Sheriff, should be handed over to the County Attorney. In the county where he resided (Northumberland), ex-Sheriff Rutten still retained the books which were in possession when he was in office, and it was reported that those in the possession of Sheriff Fortune at his death, were sold by his widow for \$100. The object of his bill was to remedy the defect in the present law which admitted of this.

Sir HENRY SMITH had no objection to the principle of the Bill, but he would like the books to be transferred to some one else than the County Attorney. So far as his observation went, County Attorneys were worse than Sheriffs.

The Bill was read a second time and referred to a select committee.

WELLINGTON, GREY AND BRUCE RAILWAY.

On motion of Hon. Mr. WOOD,

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Bill to amend the Act incorporating the Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway. The committee went through the Bill; report to be received to-morrow.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

On motion of Mr. BLAKE,

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Bill to incorporate the Toronto Young Men's Christian Association.